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## INDIA.

As the floating weed and the wild sea-birds screaming overhead mark the approach to land, so do Indian bills attest the early close of the Parliamentary Session. Legislation in connection with our Eastern possessions would, of course, be incomplete without the recurrence of a loan to supplement the "fabled wealth of Ormus and of Ind." Notwithstanding Sir Charles Wood's assurance that the three-million loan of 1860 was positively the last time of asking, we have him again before us in the character of Jeremy Diddler, except that, instead of an humble request for "such a thing as tinpence," he imperiously demands millions at a time. On the present occasion there is no attempt at concealment. Sir Charles frankly admits that at least twenty millions sterling will yet be needed for the completion of the network of Indian railways; and that, as the companies themselves will be unable to raise such a large amount, it must be provided by the aid of Government. It is therefore evident that for the next four or five years we may expect the Secretary of State for India to signal "prorogation in sight" by asking for power to raise a loan of three or four millions on the security of the revenues of that country. The necessity may be regretted, but it is now wholly unavoidable. India has been no exception to that first law of all engineering enterprises, that the original estimate should constitute only the narrow basement of the future superstructure of expenditure. In the commencement of such undertakings no quality is more highly appreciated than soberness of details and moderation in figures; but, as the works advance, it is astonishing how wide a field opens out for the exercise of imagination, and the capital that was hopefully deemed adequate for the construction of the entire line barely suffices for the feats of skill and scientific legerdemain which illustrate the engineer at the expense of the shareholders. To avoid, for instance, a slight deviation of three miles a tunnel is driven for 900 feet through a hard rock, at a cost of £600,000; and the completion of an important line is delayed five years. What matter! Will it not be a great triumph of engineering perseverance and audacity? Perish a thousand companies rather than one engineer should be balked of his niche in the temple of Fame! The first result, however, is that the original thirty-four millions must expand into fifty-six; and, to accomplish this miracle, the British Parliament will be annually called upon for the next five or six years to sanction a fresh loan.

*Virtus post nummos!* Having first attended to the pressing wants of his exchequer, Sir Charles Wood finds himself at leisure to take thought for the improvement of the Indian Administration. For this purpose he brings in a batch of bills which will probably pass into law with very slight modifications. They are, for the most part, good and desirable measures, and may even be said to be indispensable. It has for some time past been painfully apparent that the Legislative Council,

as at present constituted, is an anomaly not to be tolerated. Though consisting of the official servants of the Government, it assumes the semblance of a mock Parliament, its twelve members splitting into parties, and mowing at one another with the gesticulations and eloquence of the gorilla. If scarcely a spectacle for men and gods, it is one little calculated to inspire the natives with much respect, or move them to admiration of the moral superiority of their rulers. Possibly it might have been wiser to have rendered the Governor-General independent of his Council, and it would certainly have proved less injurious to the public interests had their deliberations been conducted with closed doors. Where there

together as to remove the fanciful prejudices of political theorists of the present day. Sir Charles Wood is one of these, and could, therefore, hardly be expected to be wiser than his generation. He proposes, indeed, to strengthen the hands of the Governor-General, but he still adheres to the delusion of surrounding him with counsellors. True, he is not obliged to adopt their suggestions; and, as no mention is made of any salary, he may sometimes find it difficult to assemble half a dozen gentlemen of spirit and intelligence in order to offer him advice on matters whereon he is certain to have already made up his mind. But, if the Council is to be only a sham and a snare, it might be better to dispense with it altogether.

The second measure brought forward by Sir Charles Wood is, however, worthy of all commendation, though by no means entitled to any praise on the ground of originality. He desires to combine the Sudder Court, presided over by the late Company's Judges, with the Supreme Court, presided over by her Majesty's Judges. This is a reform which has long been demanded by the Anglo-Indian community, but which is not equally popular with the natives, who entertain a kind of superstitious awe of the warrants issued by the Supreme Court. They have seen with astonishment a very common-looking individual armed with that mysterious document compel a European to proceed without hesitation to the Presidency, however great the distance, however unfavourable the season. Neither fierce heats, nor swollen rivers, nor seemingly-impassable roads are regarded as of any moment when a Warrant summons the delinquent to the presence of the Court. If with Europeans, then, to hear is to obey, what mercy is the poor native to expect? Such idle apprehensions will naturally disappear when the real nature of the change is understood, and much benefit may be especially anticipated from the clause which empowers the Governor-General to send a Judge into the interior on circuit.

The third "little bill" is a curious illustration of the blundering, makeshift system of administration that has, perhaps unavoidably, hitherto prevailed in India. For very many years past the Government has gone on acting in direct contravention of an Act of Parliament passed in 1793. It



THE RABBIT-SELLER.—(FROM A PICTURE, BY G. B. O'NEILL, IN THE EXHIBITION OF THE ROYAL ACADEMY.)

is no real public, publicity is a farce. The handful of Europeans settled in India independent of the Government are for many reasons unlikely to judge dispassionately of the acts or motives of the exclusively bureaucratic Legislature, while the natives kneel down like the camel to receive their allotted burden, and, also like that vicious and malignant animal, utter hideous and discordant sounds the while, and bite at all who approach them. The idea of a Parliament in such a country is utterly ridiculous, especially as the power to impose taxation is unaccompanied by any control or supervision of the expenditure. The most suitable form of government for India is a pure despotism, tempered by responsibility to public opinion at home; but it would be as easy to bring the poles

was then ordained that none but covenanted civil servants should hold the higher offices of State; but the rapid increase of the empire, and the necessity of governing on more economical principles, brought it about that military officers were frequently selected for the posts that should have exclusively belonged to civilians. In the non-regulation provinces, indeed, this may almost be said to have been the rule, though it now appears that every one of these appointments has been contrary to law. This discovery was made in consequence of a desire to send out as Foreign Secretary to the Indian Government a military officer, Colonel Durand, whose chief claim to distinction is his mal-administration of the Tenasserim Provinces. In the face of the old Act it was impossible to carry out this

time past been painfully apparent that the Legislative Council,



design, and accordingly a bill is introduced to legalise all former appointments, and to authorise the selection of meritorious servants for high office without reference to covenants that are no longer in harmony with the times. At the same time, to prevent scandalous nepotism, it is provided that a seven years' residence in the country, and a familiar acquaintance with the language of the province, shall be held as indispensable preliminaries to such appointments.

Upon the whole, the prospects of British India are at the present moment brighter than they have ever been. For the first time in its annals British supremacy is fully acknowledged. Strange as it may appear, it is nevertheless an undoubted fact that, previous to the mutiny, the Mohammedan population persisted in believing that the Emperor of Delhi was the suzerain of the Feringhees, who paid him allegiance and sought his sanction for their wars. Now, however, they are forced to recognise the British as the conquerors of Hindostan, and to submit themselves to the will of their foreign masters. Then, again, it is at length possible to balance the expenditure with the income; and Mr. Laing has been enabled to announce that the time has arrived for reverting to the military estimates of the year 1856. Public works, too, are being pushed forward with vigour, particularly those of a reproductive character, and the old sarcasm is already inapplicable which declared that the only monument of their presence to which our countrymen could point were sordid heaps of empty bottles. The onward path has been fairly entered upon, and, by the blessing of Heaven, it will lead to the mutual advantage of Europeans and natives.

#### "FRESH FROM THE WARREN."

MR. G. B. O'NEILL'S only exhibited picture this year is more of a landscape subject than he has yet, we think, produced. Hitherto in his out-of-door scenes he has not, if we rightly remember, ventured far beyond a quaint gable, or ancient doorway, half hid by a spreading vine or creeper. The present picture bears good evidence of having been carefully and conscientiously painted on the spot—probably some retired nook in Kent or Surrey—and the effect of morning light has been studied with much success. We almost wish that Mr. O'Neill had made his figures somewhat less important, and given us a little more background. We cannot believe that the immediate landscape (the scene is probably a high-hedged lane) is less picturesque than the bit presented to us.

### Foreign Intelligence.

#### FRANCE.

The French Budget was laid before the Corps Legislatif on Wednesday week, and, notwithstanding numerous speeches against it, and the enunciation of many wholesome truths against the enormous military expenditure and the exceptional laws as restrictive of public liberty, the Budgets for the Ministers of State and Justice and for Foreign Affairs have been adopted. In discussing the latter M. Plichon adverted to the Syrian question, and said if fresh distrusts should thwart the policy of France the Government might depend upon the concurrence of all France for maintaining it. M. Billault expressed a hope that the negotiations on the subject would lead to a satisfactory result; and added that the Government were cognisant of their duties, had fulfilled them in the past, and would fulfil them in the future.

The Marquis di Villamarina has arrived in Paris. It is asserted that the Emperor has sent an autograph letter to King Victor Emmanuel on account of the death of Count Cavour. The *Temps* says:—"We learn from a good source that the recognition of the kingdom of Italy by France may be considered as certain and imminent."

#### SPAIN.

We learn from Gibraltar that the Emperor of Morocco has addressed a letter to Spain praying for an extension of the time for paying the indemnity, and that Mogador is desired by Spain as a material guarantee. The Spanish squadron lately stationed at Algiers has sailed in the direction of Palma. Admiral Pinzon has left for Tangiers with two vessels. The Admiral is said to have received instructions to the effect that, "if the Emperor of Morocco should not consent to exchange Tetuan for Mogador, the Spanish squadron is to take possession of the latter place by force, and disembark there the troops now encamped on the coast of Aragon."

An official denial has been given to the rumour of a treaty between France and Spain for securing the possession of the Antilles. The Queen is progressing favourably, and the Royal infant is well.

#### PORTUGAL.

A Royal proclamation prohibits the open-air meetings convened on Sunday by the Patriotic Society. It is said that seditious manifestoes have been distributed among the troops.

#### AUSTRIA.

The Polish and Czech members of the Lower House of the Austrian Council of the Empire have proposed that the sittings of the Council should be prorogued until a representation of the whole empire can be obtained, and that in the meantime the Provincial Diets shall be convoked. It is scarcely probable that this mode of getting out of the present difficulty will be adopted.

The collection of taxes by military execution in Hungary is being everywhere carried out with the greatest severity. The Municipal Council of Pesth has resolved upon forming a civic guard to insure the personal security of the inhabitants.

#### RUSSIA.

The Russian Government are pushing their restrictive measures against the Poles very hardly. An ordinance has just been published prohibiting the wearing of square caps, Polish tunics, and even boots and shoes of certain colours, and dress of any unusual cut.

At the first reception of the new Governor of Poland in Warsaw Count Zamoycki, the popular Polish leader, was present, and was received with special distinction.

The new Lieutenant only holds his office provisionally. The remains of the late Prince Gortschakoff will be removed, it is said, to Sebastopol.

"Our letters from St. Petersburg," says the *Nord*, "state that the emancipation of the serfs is beginning to produce a good effect on the nobles themselves, inasmuch as it gives them various occupations in place of the frivolous amusements in which they formerly passed too much of their time. The agricultural associations have also acquired greater importance from the measure. In that of Moscow, for example, the most serious questions are now publicly discussed."

#### GREECE.

A letter from Athens of June 1, in the *184 Deutsche Post*, mentions the discovery of a conspiracy to seize the palace and force the King to dismiss his Ministers and convoke the National

Assembly. About a hundred persons, the letter says, were arrested, two of whom were majors in the army, one a newspaper editor, and another a Russian officer named Bulgari. Three other editors had fled. Several suspected officers had been removed from their commands.

#### TURKEY AND THE EAST.

According to a telegram received at Paris from Constantinople the Syrian question has at length been definitively arranged. At the sitting of the Conference yesterday week it was resolved that the Governor of the Lebanon should be appointed for three years, and that he should not be subject to dismissal unless with the joint consent of the Porte and the Great Powers. At the end of the three years a fresh understanding for the government of the Lebanon will be come to with the Porte and the Powers. It was also unanimously resolved that the Christian subjects of the Sultan in any province of the empire. The Governor of the Lebanon will have the rank of Muchir, and will reside at Der-el-Kamar. Order will be maintained in the mountains by militia recruited from the inhabitants of the country. Turkish troops are only to advance into the Lebanon on the requisition of the Governor.

The *Gazette de France* published on Tuesday a telegram confirming the account of the recent fight between the Turkish troops and the insurgents of the Herzegovina, in which the former were defeated. Dervish Pacha had received reinforcements, and was marching with 4000 men against the insurgents by whom his vanguard had been thus successfully assailed. Meanwhile, as if to complicate the embarrassments of the Turkish Government still more, the Begs, or Sub-governors of the provinces, had refused, on religious grounds, to recognise the concessions which Omar Pacha had offered in his proclamation to the Christian populations.

Omer Pacha has arrived at Mostar, and taken active measures to prevent the Montenegrins from perpetrating any further massacres. It is now confirmed that the Porte has consented to the complete union of the Dacubian Principalities.

The health of the Sultan has improved.

#### WEST AFRICA.

The principal news brought by the West African mail is the announcement that, in the war between the King of Lagos and the British, the latter had bombarded and captured Portonova. The Niger expedition was at the mouth of the Nun River, and was to proceed in July. The slave traders, in spite of all risks, pursue with avidity their barbarous trade. The United States schooner *Saratoga* had captured the vessel *Nightingale* (from Liverpool), with 960 slaves on board, and the British war-steamer *Torch* captured a slave schooner on the 10th of May, at Debruka.

#### TERMINATION OF THE NEW ZEALAND WAR.

We are informed from Melbourne that the war in New Zealand terminated on the 19th of March, by the unconditional surrender of the natives.

#### CHINA AND JAPAN.

The British and French Embassies are established at Peking. The flags of both nations were hoisted on March 26.

The Chinese Government have resolved to establish an English school in Peking.

According to the latest intelligence all was quiet in Japan.

#### AFFAIRS OF ITALY.

##### THE ITALIAN KINGDOM.

The new Ministry has been formed as follows:—Baron Ricasoli, President of the Council and Minister of Foreign Affairs, and also (for a period of two months) Minister of War; Signor Minghetti, Interior; Signor Bastogi, Finance; Signor Scialoja, Commerce; General Menabrea, Marine; Signor Minghetti, Justice; Signor Desanctis, Public Instruction.

In Wednesday's sitting of the Chamber of Deputies Baron Ricasoli announced the formation of the new Ministry.

After having dwelt on the immense loss sustained by Italy in the death of Count Cavour, he continued, "No one has bent under this misfortune, nor have we lost our faith in the destinies of Italy." He then explained that the policy of the new Cabinet will be a continuation of that of the one presided over by Count Cavour. The Minister went on to say: "The basis of the new Ministry will be respect for the constitution, respect for the laws, and maintenance of public order. The first care of the Government will be zealously to continue the armament of the country, and at the same time to develop the economical forces of Italy, and to establish the equilibrium of the revenue and expenditure."

A similar communication was made in the Senate. In the Chamber of Deputies a bill has been laid on the table for the construction of a naval and military arsenal at Spezia.

The Chamber of Deputies, on the motion of its President, has decided that a marble statue of Count Cavour shall be placed in the Hall of Assembly.

A subscription has been opened at Rome for the future erection of a monument to Count Cavour in the Capitol.

##### THE PAPAL STATES.

The Papal Government is kept in a continual state of anxiety by the open and concealed attempts of the people against its authority. The Pope has exiled Prince Prombino for refusing to withdraw his signature from the petition for the removal of the French troops from Rome; and a notary has been arrested, and fifteen physicians exiled, in consequence of the discovery of proclamations and tricoloured cockades.

The Pope has been ill, but is now recovering.

THE LATE KING LOUIS PHILIPPE OF FRANCE.—In the sitting of the French Senate on Saturday a petition was read from a private individual, praying that the mortal remains of King Louis Philippe might be removed to France. Count de Beaumont, the reporter, observed that the Committee was decidedly of opinion that a mere stranger was not entitled to petition for such a result, and that a member of the Orleans family could alone make the request. Were such an application sent in there was nothing to lead to the belief that it would not be accorded. When the late King died, the Emperor had declared—as was confirmed by a letter from the Minister of State, which the reporter had in his possession—that he should not oppose the translation of the body of Louis Philippe to Dreux. That decision was made known to the Orleans princes, who did not consider it advisable to profit by the authorisation. In consequence, the Committee proposed to the Senate to pass to the order of the day. That course was agreed to.

A LETTER ON OAKUM PICKING.—The following letter appears in the *Times*:—"Sir,—Knowing your readiness to assist the Oppressed, I send you this; if you could find a corner for it you would oblige. What I wish to call your attention to is the system carried out by the master of the Holborn Union (Mr. Francis) respecting the oakum-pickers. He has made the quantity of oakum to be picked from 4lb. to 6lb. per day, not allowing anything for waste, which is impossible to do, as we must pick from 7lb. to 8lb. or more to obtain the required 6lb., or else we are put on bread and water, and more particularly on meat days (Mondays, Wednesdays, and Fridays, are soup days). Now, on Friday if we do not pick our quantity no notice is taken of it, as Saturday is pudding-day and he does not want it left; but on Saturday, if we do not do our quantity, he is sure to place us on bread and water on the Sunday, which seems to be a system he entirely aims at. I, for one, have not tasted meat for upwards of four weeks, and I can name others three weeks and two weeks, men and women. Now, his this is not an illegal act on the part of the master, in putting us on bread and water on Sunday, as Sunday is not a working day. His only aim is to drive us out destitute to commit some crime, for he says we are only a parcel of thieves."

"I am, Sir, yours most obediently," WILLIAM GOTCH.  
"by your inserting this you will oblige those that once moved in a respectable sphere of life, but are now over 70 years of age."

#### THE CONFLICT IN AMERICA.

THE only active military operation of any importance yet announced from America is an attack by the Federal steamers against the Confederate batteries at Aquida Creek, the result of which is not known.

The Confederate troops were menacing Alexandria, and an action between the two forces could scarcely be long avoided. General Scott intended making a vigorous onward movement as early as possible: 35,000 troops were to be pushed into the interior of Virginia, and 20,000 would invade Virginia from Eastern Pennsylvania, 20,000 would advance from Ohio, and 15,000, aided by naval force, would make their way up James River.

An advance of 4000 "rebels" was expected in Alexandria. The Federal troops were preparing to receive them. Two regiments were under orders to drive out a body of 14,000 "rebels" from Fairfax Courthouse.

Large bodies of troops were moving upon Harper's Ferry from Pennsylvania, and it was surmised that a conflict would shortly take place in that direction. General Butler was awaiting reinforcements from the North at Fort Monroe, and an attack upon the city and dockyard of Norfolk was considered imminent.

Four hundred and fifty slaves are reported to have fled into General Butler's camp. The General was retaining the slaves instead of returning them to their masters, as was first done. In other words, to quote his own phrase, he regarded them as "contraband of war."

There is great difficulty in obtaining information of Southern movements, but it is rumoured that large reinforcements are being concentrated at Richmond. It is asserted that the Confederates have given up all idea of capturing Fort Pickens; as this intelligence, however, comes through a Northern channel it may not be correct.

The earthworks of the Secessionists command both the roads to Richmond and Harper's Ferry for four miles.

Virginia has ratified the Secessionist ordinance by a majority of 150,000 votes.

New Orleans is said to be blockaded, and several steamers were to sail immediately for the harbour of Charleston. The blockade seems to be rigidly enforced, twenty-three prizes having already been captured in the Chesapeake alone.

Ex-Governor Batt has been arrested for treason.

General Harney has been recalled from his command in Missouri. The Washington correspondent of the *New York Times* states that the Federal Government will make a conditional call of 100,000 men.

A man has been shot dead in the streets of New York for expressing Secession views.

More mob riots have taken place at Baltimore, and it is reported that cries were raised for Jefferson Davis.

The *New York Express* states that the next Federal Congress will levy a duty on tea and coffee.

The death of Mr. Douglas was hourly expected at New York. Such an event, occurring at this juncture, would be a heavy blow to the Democratic party. Mr. Douglas was at one time in favour of a pro-slavery compromise, or of a peaceful separation, but since the fall of Fort Sumter he has supported the policy of the Federal Government. He has, however, always been careful to express his disagreement with them on the slavery question.

The *New York press* interprets the Queen's proclamation as a quasi recognition of the Southern Confederacy.

The *New York Times* says:—"It is the determination of the Government to crush out the rebellion before the coming 4th of July. Simultaneous attacks will be made on Norfolk, Richmond, Harper's Ferry, and Pensacola, and a flotilla will be sent down the Mississippi. Loyal citizens will be protected, but traitors will be hanged, and their property confiscated."

It would appear from the following extract from the Washington correspondence that discipline was rather lax among the Federal troops:—

Private Buckley, of Company F, New York Zouaves, was shot this morning while assaulting a superior officer. One of the Zouaves is under arrest, charged with having abused a woman in Alexandria. If the charge is proved he will be shot, for the Government has determined to deal very summarily with any soldier who is guilty of lawlessness. Another Zouave (J. M. Wilcox, Company C) was shot early this morning while attempting to run the guard at Alexandria. He refused three times to respond to the challenge, and the sentinel shot him dead in his tracks. The discipline is very strict under Farnham, the new Colonel. John Butterworth, of the Zouaves, sergeant of the guard, Company I, was shot about three o'clock this morning by the sentry. He was challenged three times, but failed to reply, thinking the sentry knew him. He died in five minutes. The sentry was justified, of course. It is a good lesson.

The Federal Government had instructed a commission to examine the telegraphic despatches recently seized by the Government, under strict injunction of secrecy, and after having selected those of a treasonable character, to re-seal and return those relating to mere business transactions.

A fearful amount of distress, arising from the scarcity and dearth of provisions, must exist in the Southern States. We find that flour which costs five dollars per barrel in New York sells at nine or ten dollars in New Orleans. In Virginia provisions are said to be selling at famine prices.

Englishmen will be a little surprised to hear that within a few days British subjects living in New Orleans have been seized, knocked down, carried off from their labour at the wharf and the workshop, and forced by violence to serve in the "volunteer" ranks. These cases are not isolated. They are not in twos and threes, but in tens and twenties, and have taken place in the open day and in the streets.

#### FRANCE AND AMERICA.

The *Moniteur* publishes the following:—

His Majesty the Emperor of the French, taking into consideration the state of peace which exists between France and the United States of America, has resolved to maintain a strict neutrality in the struggle between the Government of the Union and the States which propose to form a separate Confederation.

No vessel of war or privateer of either of the belligerent parties will be allowed to enter or stay with prizes in our ports or roadsteads longer than twenty-four hours, except in cases of compulsory delay (*retache forcée*).

No sale of goods belonging to prizes is allowed in our ports and roadsteads.

Every Frenchman is prohibited from taking a commission under either of the two parties to arm vessels of war, or to accept letters of marque for privateering purposes, or to assist in any manner whatsoever the equipment or armament of a vessel of war or privateer of either party.

Every Frenchman, whether residing in France or abroad, is likewise prohibited from enlisting or taking service either in the land army or on board vessels of war or privateers of either of the two belligerent parties.

Frenchmen residing in France or abroad must likewise abstain from any act which, committed in violation of the laws of the Empire, or of international law, might be considered as an act hostile to one of the two parties, and contrary to the neutrality which we have resolved to observe. All persons acting contrary to the prohibitions and recommendations contained in the present declaration will be prosecuted, if required, conformably to the enactments of the law.

His Majesty declares, moreover, that every Frenchman contravening the present enactments will have no claim to any protection from his Government against any acts or measures, whatever they may be, which the belligerents might exercise or decree.

NAPOLEON.

THOUVENEL, Minister of Foreign Affairs.

OUR ARMY IN CANADA.—It has been determined to send three regiments of infantry, with artillery and munitions of war, to reinforce the garrisons in British North America. These garrisons had been so reduced of late years as scarcely to afford sentries enough for the protection of the public buildings at the most important military posts, and, as their weakness seemed to invite attack, it has been thought desirable to place them in a position to command respect from any irregular body which, in a moment of excitement, might feel tempted to assail a place which seemed incapable of defence.



## COUNT CAVOUR'S DEATH AND BURIAL.

ITALIAN correspondence during the last week has been full of particulars concerning the illness and death of Count Cavour. One letter, written on the day of his decease (Thursday week), says:—

Cavour died this morning. On Wednesday last he received some despatches from Paris, about the Roman question, which preyed heavily upon his mind, and excited him beyond measure. He drove from Parliament at three o'clock, straight to his country seat at Leri; took a long walk across the dewy meadows, and caught cold. He returned on Thursday, the blood rushing strongly to his head. The physician, believing that it was an incipient attack of apoplexy, bled him, and within three days repeated the bleeding five times on account of the congestion. On Monday it was found to be a typhoid fever, or, according to others, *febris tertiana intermittens perniciosa*. He became yesterday delirious, and died at seven this morning.

We read in the Turin correspondence of the *Times*:—

Notwithstanding frequent fits of delirium, Count Cavour seemed to have a distinct presentiment of his fate. Seeing himself alone with his domestic attendants, he asked with great serenity "whether his doctors had forsaken him?" On being answered, with surprise and concern, that they could never have thought of leaving him for a moment, he smiled, and said, "Domattina, gli abbandonerò io." ("It is I who shall quit them to-morrow morning.") The King paid repeated visits to the builder of the exalted fortunes of his dynasty. The Home Minister, Minghetti, applied for a final interview with the leader of Italian politics, but was kept back by the Count's physicians. Farini was with him to the last moment. The dying man showed great strength and composure throughout his agony. There was apparently no intense suffering—at least, no utterance of it. He talked with great volubility, and even with his wonted humour, both in moments of mental alienation and in lucid intervals. Not one word escaped him throughout that betrayed the least feeling of resentment or animosity against any man, living or dead.

He talked a good deal about politics, and to the last minute he expressed a firm faith in the destinies of his country. He advised patience and perseverance. He said, "We shall get on to the end" (*andremo avanti sino alla fine*). He spoke of Cialdini, Menabrea, Cugia, of armies on the Po and the Minchio. He turned the conversation on almost trivial subjects—the crops, the silkworms.

The same writer says positively that the latest words that fell from Cavour's lips were, "Be tranquil, and all is saved." A little while before, he was confusedly recalling the late events of Italy, and was repeating over and over again, "Oh, ma la cosa va; state sicuri che ormai la cosa va." And we shall take this for a watchword, exclaims the *Gazzetta del Popolo*: "the thing is going on," and it shall go on till the whole freedom of Italy is gained. In the delirium which seized him afterwards his mind seemed to be reverting to Bourbonist troubles, of brigandage in the Abruzzi, and to a suggestion which was discussed or at least proposed by somebody a month or two ago (before Count Ponza di San Martino went to Naples), that those districts should be placed in a state of siege; for he was heard to say, "I will have no state of siege. Anybody can govern with a state of siege."

On the day preceding Count Cavour's death his Majesty the Emperor of the French sent five successive telegrams to Turin to inquire about the state of the illustrious patient. On the same day the King of Sardinia passed several hours in the sick-room, conversing most affectionately with his faithful Minister. His Majesty, after a short absence, returned again at eleven p.m. with Prince Carignan; but the Count was no longer able to recognise visitors. The King closed Count Cavour's eyes himself.

The House of Deputies was fully attended on the day of the Count's death. The galleries were crowded, but deep silence prevailed. Sir James Hudson, in whose arms the Count died, was in the diplomatic gallery. The members of the headless Cabinet were all present. The President, Rattazzi, in a few impressive words, announced to the House the loss the nation had sustained, and adjourned it for three days. He repeated to the deputies the words uttered by Count Cavour with his last breath, expressing his firm faith in the destinies of the country, and recommending unity and constancy.

On the motion of the Deputy Lanza, the House resolved to go into mourning for twenty days.

The body was opened by the physicians on the afternoon of the 7th. It was remarked that the Count's hair had turned quite white during his short malady. The people were admitted to visit the body laid out in state, and photographs were taken of the chamber after the departure of the public.

The funeral of Count Cavour took place at Turin on Friday week, accompanied with every outward mark of respect, and amid the heartfelt grief of the whole population.

At a quarter-past six the cortege left the house of the deceased. The hearse was drawn by six black horses; the pall was held by the Minister of War, the Minister of Justice, the Vice-President of the Senate, M. Rattazzi, President of the Chamber of Deputies, General de Sonnaz, and General Crotti. The hearse was surrounded by the Royal servants. On the coffin were the insignia of the deceased, amongst which were observed his hat as Captain of engineers. Behind, the collar of the supreme order of the Annunziata was carried upon a cushion by a herald. Next came the Chevaliers of the Order of the Annunziata, the Aides-de-Camp of the King and the Princes, the Ministers, the grand officers of State, the Senate, and the Chamber of Deputies in a body. Baron Ricasoli, in spite of evident indisposition, was present, with the principal members of the Opposition, the Council of State, and the members of the Audit Office, in black; the Court of Appeal, in red robes; the Municipal corps, escorted by the Municipal Guard; the University body in their robes, followed by all the students with their flag; the various corporations, lawyers, merchants, &c.; the Roman and Venetian refugees, carrying flags with the colours of Rome and Venice; and a numerous detachment of Garibaldians, the majority of whom wore the red shirt; the various workmen's associations, each with its flag. There were also deputations from various cities. The procession closed with a squadron of Hussars of Piacenza on horseback.

The balconies along the whole line of march were hung with mourning drapery; the pavement was strewn with funeral flowers. As the whole manhood of Turin accompanied the coffin, so the whole of the gentler part of the population was out of window looking on. The weather was such as best could befit the occasion. The morning had been fair and fresh, but the wind was gusty and fretful. The clouds gathered, and deep gloom set on the stricken city; a few drops accompanied the mourners as they repaired to the scene of their sorrowful performance; these changed into heavy rain as the bier issued forth into the open air. The pouring flood, however, did not thin by one man the ranks of the procession. The shower made no sign of abating till the convoy reached Piazza Castello. There, however, just as the car rolled heavily round the Madama Palace, close to the deeply-curtained and swathed windows of the Foreign Office, the eyes of all were attracted towards the south-west, where, just over the opposite angle of the square, a rainbow compassed the sky. Never did that "celestial arch" which first gave mankind the pledge that their Maker would not "be angry with them for ever" shine on a human family in greater want of comfort. Presently the clouds broke, and before the Via di San Francesco di Paola was reached the rain was over.

During the whole progress of the procession, from the moment the coffin left the Palace hall till it stood on the threshold of the church, the cannon thundered from the Capuchin Hill. As the bier entered, the air was rent by repeated salvos of musketry. The muffled drums, the funeral march from numerous bands, all tended to render the scene painfully impressive.

It may be a meagre consolation, but of all that right Royal splendour could do to clothe sorrow with all the trappings of state nothing was omitted. The whole of the King's household, arms, and liveries were sent to do honour to the funeral pomp of a subject. The King also intimated to the family of the deceased that "the Royal vaults of the Superga would be thrown open to receive the remains of one who had been a monarch of the mind." But it is somewhat doubtful whether the intended honour will be accepted, as Count Cavour

is said to have often expressed a desire to be interred at Santena, in the territory of Chieri, an ancestral seat of his house, with a large palace and magnificent high-timbered grounds, in the style of an English park. There, in the chapel, are the tombs of the Benso family, with which the Count was connected by blood.

Several of the journals are mistaken in stating that Count Cavour's father was an ennobled corn-dealer. The late Count belonged to a noble family originally of Chieri. He was one of the nobles of that country who were popularly called the seven C's, from the fact that there were seven noble families at Chieri whose names began with that letter. Count de Cavour was never married. His brother succeeds to his estates.

A great outcry has been raised against the way in which the Count's malady was treated. One letter-writer says:—

The Romans, it is said, crowned on the Capitol the physician who rid them of Pope Adrian VI. The Italians of our own days would honestly hang Count Cavour's doctors if the execution would afford any relief to their feelings. There never was a clearer case of a man murdered by his medical attendants. Within a very short period of five days they attempted to cure the Count of four or more different complaints—congestion of the brain, typhus fever, intermittent pernicious fever, brain fever, droopy, and, lastly, gout; and for all these diseases they could think of nothing but their own sovereign remedy—the lancet. I think these excellent practitioners are worthy to send down their names to posterity. They were—Dr. Rossi, Dr. Mattoni, and, towards the end, the King's physician, Riberi, the same in whose hands the mother, wife, and brother of Victor Emmanuel expired, one by one, in the early months of the fatal year 1855. Dr. Tommasi, who was summoned from Pavia by Cavour's friends, was not admitted to consultation.

And a writer in the *Morning Post* remarks:—

Miss Frederika Bremer, it is curious, describes in her late book the attacks of congestive gastric fever to which the illustrious Count was subject every summer, and this is the disease described in the Italian newspapers of this month, transmogrified by the telegram people into "typhus." Count Cavour's illness was "typhoid" fever, the modern name of congestive gastric. Typhus is a different disease altogether. A chestnut horse and a horse chestnut are not more dissimilar. I foresaw Count Cavour's serious illness ten days ago, the first moment I read of the three bleedings from the arm! I made a small bet, he was a dead man when I read of six bleedings; nothing could possibly have saved him. Still in England we are every week seeing these cases, just similar, cured perfectly by such means as a few leeches, beef-tea, wine, hot stripes of turpentine, &c. No one in his senses would advise bleeding from the arm.

The Emperor Napoleon sent Dr. Conneau to the Count's assistance: he arrived too late. Dr. Conneau is the physician who assisted the Emperor to escape out of prison.

## THE PROVINCES.

COMMITTAL OF A BOY FOR MANSLAUGHTER.—On Saturday last a little boy named Sutcliffe had a quarrel at Halifax with another youth of the same name, respecting some marbles. The latter was thrown upon the ground, and whilst there a brother of the former, aged ten years, came up and kicked him over his left ear. Death ensued from the blow, and the inflictor of the fatal wound has since been committed for trial at the next Assizes.

FALL OF A RAILWAY-BRIDGE.—A terrible accident took place on Tuesday morning on the Coventry and Leamington branch of the London and North-Western Railway, by which two persons—an engine-driver and a fireman—were killed on the spot and a vast amount of property destroyed. Between Leamington and Kenilworth, which are distant from each other between five and six miles, there is a road passing between the embankment of the railway crossed over by the line by means of a wooden bridge. Shortly before daybreak the fast up goods train left Leamington on its way to Coventry for London and other places. On arriving at the wooden bridge it suddenly gave way, and the engine and tender, followed by a considerable portion of the train, were precipitated to the ground beneath with a tremendous crash, which was heard both at the Kenilworth and Leamington stations. The only other persons with the train beside the engine-driver and fireman were the guard and porter, who, fortunately for themselves, were in the break at the rear of the train, which, by the snapping of the coupling-irons, was driven back upon the rails. Assistance speedily arrived from both Leamington and Kenilworth stations. The bodies of the unfortunate men were found in the midst of the debris of the fallen bridge and engine, mutilated as well as scalded in so frightful a manner that death must have been instantaneous. The traffic along the Coventry and Leamington branch line is entirely suspended, and will be so until the fallen bridge is entirely rebuilt.

ROBBERY OF POST OFFICE PROPERTY.—For some time past it has been noticed by the officers of the stores department of the General Post Office that those in what is called the "bag room" have run unaccountably short. In this particular part of the building in St. Martin's-le-Grand are some hundreds of bags, most of them being made of canvas. On Monday evening, after the departure of the outward mails, one of the men employed in the "bag room" was stopped in going out of it by an officer. Upon searching him six canvas bags were found concealed beneath his apron. Upon his residence being visited by the officers several other articles of Post Office property were found, and the man thereupon made disclosures which implicated several other parties and led to their arrest.

ATTEMPTED POISONING AT SHEFFIELD.—The son of Mary Liversedge, a widow residing at Darnall, was returning from the public-house with beer, when he was met by one Windle, a rejected suitor of his mother, who put something into the beer. The boy, on getting home, told his mother what had happened, and on examination it was found that some of "Bottle's vermin killer," which contains strychnine, had been used. Windle has been committed for trial at the next York Assizes.

SERIOUS DISTURBANCES AT OLDHAM.—In consequence of some Roman Catholic scholars having walked through a procession of St. Mary's Church scholars in the Market-place, Oldham, on Whit Friday, a good deal of ill-feeling has been created, and this has shown itself during the past week in a series of disturbances in Tommy Field (the fair ground) between English and Irish lads. On Thursday week the disturbances assumed a serious character. Bands of youths went through several of the principal streets, and stated their determination to "punish" all the Irish out of Oldham. When they were dispersed by the police in one place they re-assembled in another, and assaulted any Irishman they met. At last, about half-past nine, several hundreds of them went to the Catholic Chapel, Shaw-street, surrounded it, and commenced throwing stones at the windows, having first tried to get in at the doors. The mob surrounded the chapel and the house of the priest, which adjoins it, entered the garden and chapel-yard, pulled up some shrubs, and tore down the palisades separating the garden from the chapel-yard. At length they were dispersed, and comparative quiet restored. Some of the windows in the chapel are completely riddled with stones, but others are almost untouched. Next night crowds assembled in Tommy Field, and the open space near the Catholic Chapel. Some stones were thrown, and some more windows were broken, but the police drove the crowd away. In other parts of the town crowds congregated, apparently without any particular aim, but some fights took place, and several persons were injured by stones.

BRUTAL MURDER AT KINGSWOOD.—A brutal murder was perpetrated on Monday night last at Kingswood, Surrey. What the motive, or by whom committed, does not as yet appear, there being, from the circumstances, no witness to the crime. The Rev. Mr. Taylor, Incumbent of the church there, having had occasion to leave home, a Mrs. Holliday undertook the charge of the place during the absence of the family. On Tuesday morning, when her husband went to visit her, he found his unfortunate wife lying dead in her night-dress, and discovered that the house had been forcibly entered. It appears that the murderers first cut a pane of glass from one of the front windows and cut their hands, as there is a little blood on the woodwork. Being unsuccessful, they proceeded to the back of the house, the lower windows of which are protected by iron bars. They took the stump of an old tree, and placed it against an outhouse adjoining the dwelling-house, the stumps of the lopped branches assisting them to ascend, and by this means got on the outhouse roof, and smashed the window of the bedroom in which deceased slept. The noise probably awoke deceased, who no doubt made an alarm. It would seem as if the murderers then dragged her from the head of the bed, as there is a streak of blood on the floor from the head to the foot of the bed, and bound her hands and feet very tightly. They then thrust an old stocking into her mouth with so much violence as to force the tongue down to the gullet. A formidable weapon was found in the room—a thick piece of yew, about twenty inches long, with a heavy knob at one end and a piece of cord to twist round the wrist at the other end. There were marks on her cheeks as if clutched by the finger nails of the murderers, probably done when forcing the stocking into her mouth. That two persons at least were engaged in this atrocious outrage is clear, as two separate sets of footmarks can be clearly distinguished on the flower-beds and other parts of the grounds.

A BOY SHOT BY A RIFLEMAN.—On Saturday afternoon, as a party of the 3rd Cheshire Rifle was practising on the shore at Wallasey, a little boy employed to carry a danger-signal was unfortunately hit by a ball, which passed through his body. The poor little fellow, who was found lying behind a sandhill, received immediate surgical attendance, but the wound proved so serious that he expired on Sunday morning.

SHOCKING MURDER IN A CHURCH.—A dreadful murder was committed in the parish church at Blakeney, a village between the stations of Newham and Gattombe, on the South Wales line, last week. The parish clerk, named Steele, left home to get some beer for supper, and, not returning, his wife went to the public-house in search of him. She was told he had been there, but left as soon as he got the ale. Thinking he might have called at the church, which was on his way home, the wife went there, and found him lying on the floor strangled, his handkerchief tied in a tight knot round his neck. Some strangers, supposed to be from the Forest of Dean, had been seen in the village during the day, and it is conjectured that they had entered the church for the purpose of stealing the plate, and that the clerk, observing the door open, went to see who was there, when the men attacked him. They probably did not intend to commit murder, but, finding the man dead, they quitted the church in alarm, leaving their key in the door. Everything in the church was found untouched. There were marks of a severe struggle having taken place.

## THE FIRE IN THE FEDERAL NAVY-YARD AT NORFOLK.

NORFOLK is one of the most important towns of the United States, containing a large population, and situated near the mouth of the Elizabeth River, eight miles from the Bay of Chesapeake, and thirty-two from the Atlantic Ocean—a position which at once renders it desirable for the formation of a naval depot such as that for which it was occupied by the Government, its port being secure, large, and of easy access to vessels of the heaviest burden. The Government works near Norfolk, at Portsmouth, and Gosport, comprise large maritime establishments, including an hospital, an arsenal, and great timber-yards, as well as one of the finest wet docks in the world.

Before Virginia had made known her disaffection to the Union a corps of 5000 volunteers from the South had already occupied Norfolk in a military sense, with the evident intention of taking possession of the entire range of works which had been established there, as well as the provisions accumulated in the arsenal and twelve ships of war anchored near Gosport. However, Fort Monroe, which commands the entrance to the harbour, contained a Federal force strong enough to defy all attack by immediate assault, but, being too far from Gosport and Portsmouth, could not render any assistance to the menaced vessels. The armament and equipment of these ships were incomplete. The frigate Cumberland alone had 300 men on board, and the Captain was disposed to take at once to the sea, but learning that the Virginians had already launched several armed boats, and that the attack against the Federal forces was to take place the next day, he concluded that resistance would be useless. It became necessary, therefore, either to accomplish without delay a work of total destruction or to give up to the enemy not only a small fleet, but immense war matériel. The Federal officers did not hesitate, an instant. The cannons in the arsenal were spiked, the arms broken, and preparations were made to blow up the magazines, the timber-yards, and the ships. The Yankee, which had put into the port for the purpose of obtaining a supply of coal, towed the Cumberland beyond the harbour, and broke through the obstacles which the Virginians had placed in the way of the vessels. All the preparations being completed, at four o'clock in the morning the Captain of the Cumberland gave the signal for destruction by throwing up a rocket. A terrific explosion was heard, and in less than a minute the various buildings of the arsenal, as well as the vessels in the dockyard, were on fire.

Two of the officers intrusted with the direction of the operations—Commodore Rogers and Captain Wright, of the Engineers—were not able to gain the boat which came to fetch them from the spot. They have, it is feared, fallen victims to their devotion.

The blazing fires lighted up the whole space of Norfolk Bay, while the excited population soon covered the quays, and even came in boats amongst the burning ships, giving vent to their feelings in cries and shouts for vengeance. It was at once an awful and yet a grand spectacle: when daylight appeared the entire fleet was destroyed, and nothing remained of that superb arsenal, and the magazines fitted and provisioned with such labour, but a heap of smoking ruins. Only one ship, the United States, built in 1797 and since condemned, has been spared, the fifty guns with which it was armed being sacrificed.

The names of the vessels destroyed were the Pennsylvania, of 3241 tons and 140 guns; the Merrimac, of 3200 tons and 40 guns; the Delaware, of 2635 tons and 80 guns; the Columbus, of 2480 tons and 80 guns; the New York, of 2683 tons and 84 guns; the Columbia, of 1726 tons and 50 guns; the Raritan, of 60 guns; the Plymouth and the Germantown, of 989 tons and 22 guns; and the Dolphin, of 224 tons and 4 guns. Several of these were old and almost beyond service, especially the Columbus, built in 1819; the Delaware, in 1822; the Columbia, in 1836; and the Pennsylvania, in 1837.

The most regretted is the Merrimac, one of the finest frigates ever built, and of which the Americans were very proud. It came to Europe about three years ago, and excited general admiration.

The disappointed Secessionists worked with great energy in endeavouring to save from the ruins everything which the fire had spared, and also tried to raise some of the ships, and indeed counted upon rescuing from the Merrimac some pieces of cannon of very great beauty, as well as copper cases containing 30,000 pounds of powder.

In their haste the Federal garrison had forgotten to spike several pieces of cannon of large calibre, and the General of the Southern force had them transported to a hill at the entrance of the harbour, with the intention of bombarding the fort at the earliest opportunity.

It seems obvious that ere long there must be operations in the eastern part of Virginia, since the President has stated his determination to take possession of the Federal property, and the first points of attack will be Harper's Ferry, Richmond, and Norfolk.

The Navy-yard is, properly speaking, a settlement of exceedingly neat detached houses, with gardens in front, porticoes, pillars, verandahs, and Venetian blinds to aid the dense trees in keeping off the scorching rays of the sun, which is intensely powerful in summer, blazing so fiercely as to force one to admit the assertion that the average temperature is as high as that of Calcutta to be very probable. The little grass plots under these trees are now covered with neat piles of canon balls, mostly of small size; two obsolete mortars—one dated 1776—are placed in the main avenue. Tents are pitched under the trees, and the houses are all occupied by officers, who chat, smoke, and drink at the open windows. A number of men in semi-military, dresses of various sorts and side arms lounge about the quays and the lawns before the houses.

The only ship here is the shell of the old Fulton, which is on the stocks; but the works of the Navy-yard are useful in casting shot, shell, and preparing munitions of war.

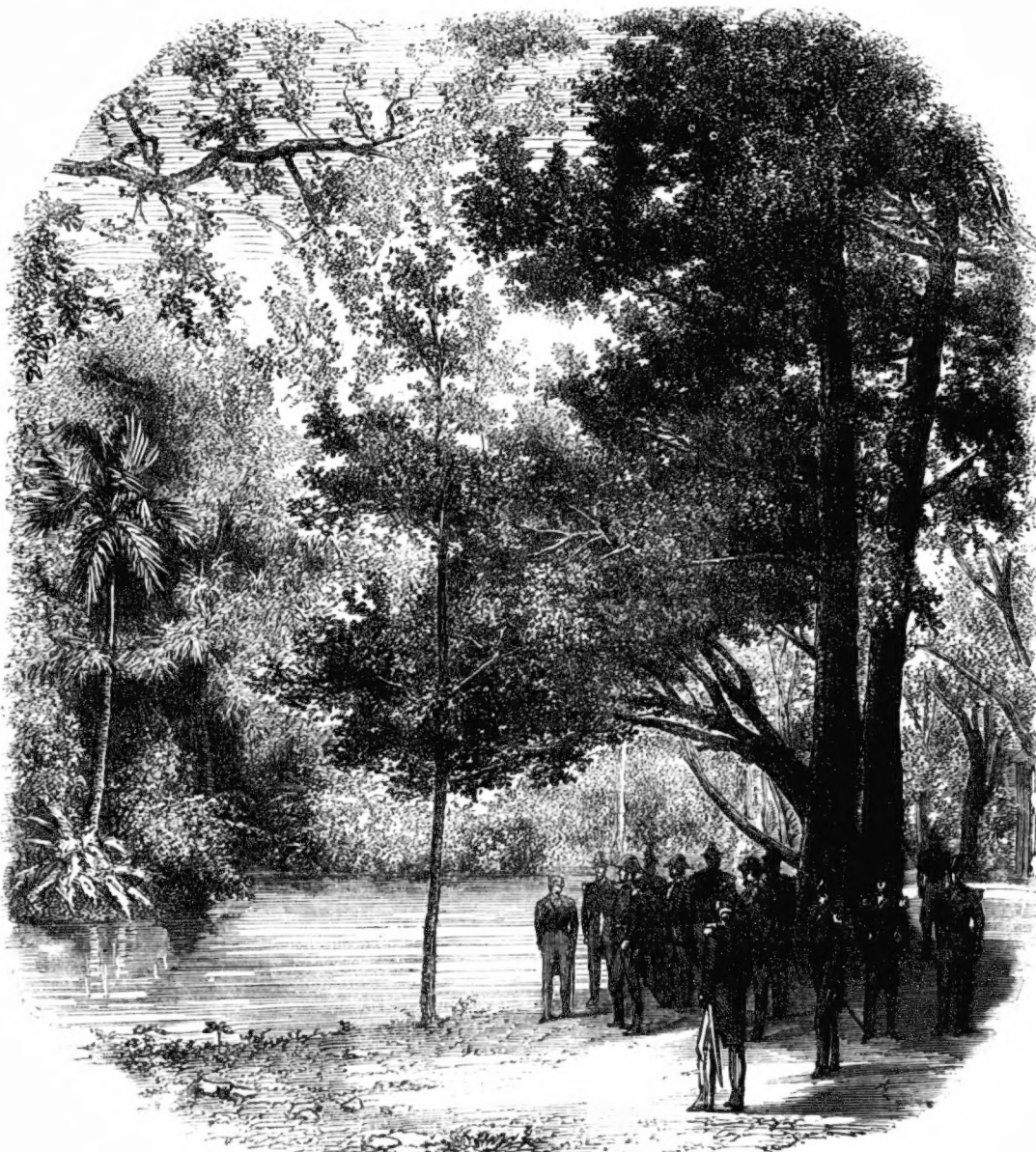
VOLUNTEER FIELD-DAY AT HAMPSHIRE.—On Saturday a volunteer field-day, by authority of the War Department, took place at Hampstead, under the command of Colonel Lysons, C.B., Deputy Adjutant-General and Colonel of the Royal Welsh Fusiliers. The spot selected for the evolutions was the rugged heath in the rear of Jack Straw's Castle, looking westward towards the Edgware-road and Harrow-on-the-Hill. It was arranged that the proceedings of the day should commence at six o'clock, and about that time the 20th Middlesex, under the command of Lieutenant-Colonel Bigge, arrived on the heath, headed by their brass and drum-and-life bands, for the purpose of keeping the ground. The corps to be engaged shortly followed, consisting of the Victoria, to the number of about 300, under the command of Major Whitehead and Captain and Adjutant Trew; the West Middlesex, 340, under the command of Lieutenant-Colonel Lord Radstock; the 2nd Administrative Battalion, under the command of Major Wilkinson; the Hornsey, under Captain Watters; the Hampstead, under Captain M'Innes; the Highgate, under Captain Commandant Langdale; 7th Tower Hamlets, under Captain Ludbrook; and the 3rd Tower Hamlets, under the command of Lieutenant-Colonel Sir T. F. Buxton, Bart., making in the aggregate a force of about 1400 effective, including the 20th Middlesex. At the conclusion of their evolutions they were highly complimented by the Colonel commanding.



# **VISIT OF PRINCE ALFRED TO THE BOTANICAL GARDENS, MARTINIQUE.**

It is pleasant to read of the cordial reception with which the Princes of the Royal Family of Great Britain are greeted while on their travels; and the demonstrations which accompanied the visits of the Prince of Wales to the various towns of Canada and the United States seem to be equalled by the enthusiasm which has been displayed by the people who have welcomed Prince Alfred when he has landed from the St. George for a short spell on shore. Few of these excursions can have been more interesting than the visit which he lately paid to Martinique, where, although he had determined to go in the quietest manner possible, his visit had been officially announced a month before to the Governor of the colony, Vice-Admiral, M. Maussion de Candé, who had made all necessary preparations to receive him as a distinguished guest.

He first visited the Fort de France, where he spent two days, and afterwards went to Saint Pierre, where he was received by the Governor and the municipal authorities. Amongst the various excursions which the young Prince made in the environs of St. Pierre, his visit to the Botanical Gardens seems to have been the most delightful; and, indeed, it would be impossible to imagine a place where the picturesque and the luxuriant in nature are more happily combined than at this magnificent garden of Martinique. M. Bellanger, the superintendent, has availed himself of all the advantages which that soil and climate present; and has succeeded in making the garden a combination of richness and beauty truly marvellous. The lake represented in our Engraving was the spot at which the Prince stopped for some time, delighted at the superb spectacle which was presented by the varied effect of colour and form in the foliage standing in dense masses around him. It was an arena formed of bright and luxuriant tropical plants, amidst which rose fan-shaped palms and gigantic bamboos. Everything glowed with a hundred tropical dyes: fruit, flowers, and polished stems stood amidst a background



VISIT OF PRINCE ALFRED TO THE HORTICULTURAL GARDENS AT ST. PIERRE, MARTINIQUE.

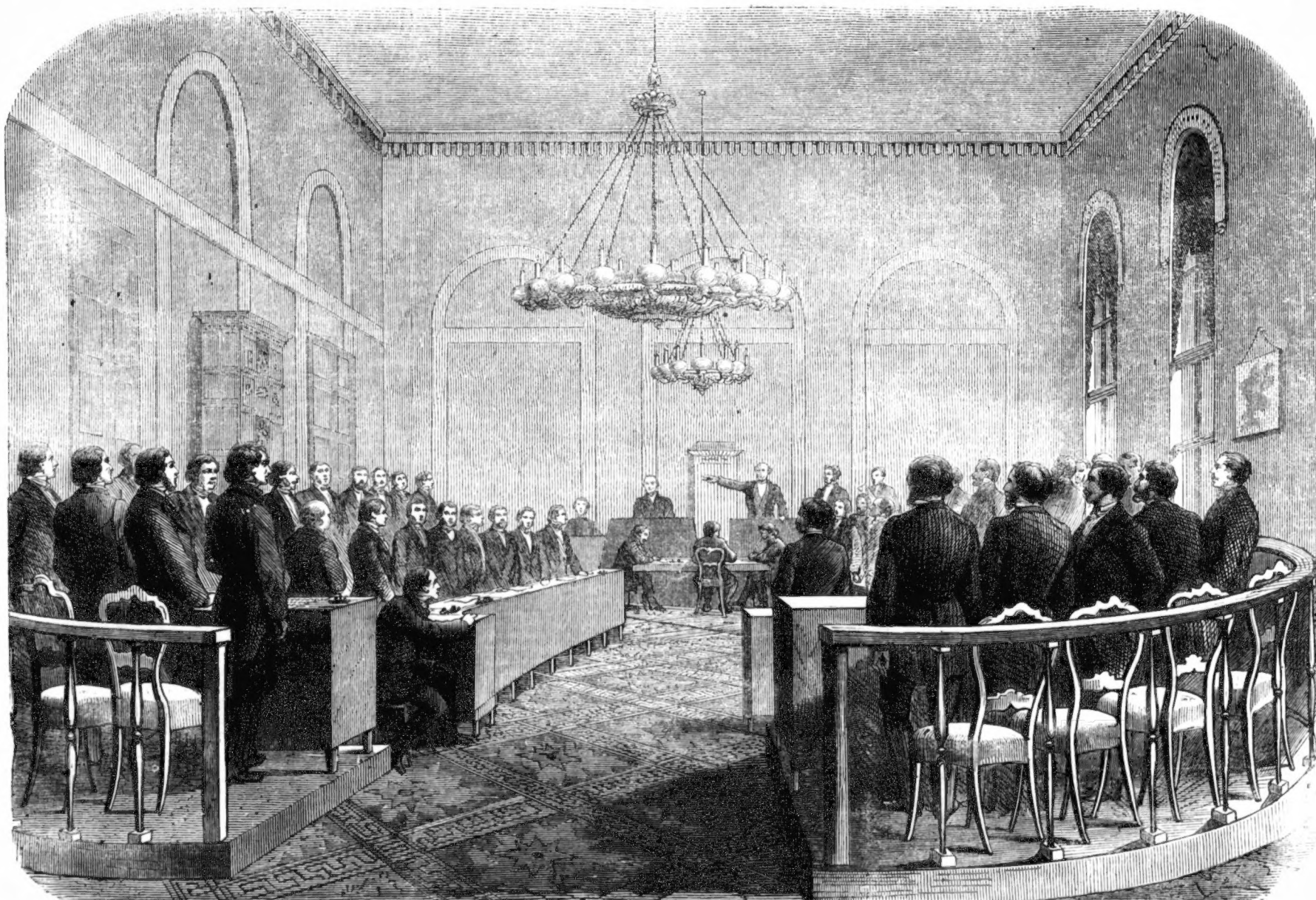
of green branches of every shape and shade, while silver and golden leaves, with tinted flowers, studded the shady vistas like fairy lamps. Before quitting the garden the Prince conveyed his congratulations to M. Bellanger upon the admirable effect which had been produced by his skilful arrangements.

## **A VISIT TO THE HOLSTEIN DIET.** (From a Correspondent.)

I was present at the meeting of the Diet in Itzehoe, when, after the short recess of a few days, the Deputies reassembled to receive the report of the committee on the question of the Dano-German Duchies. That portion of the Hall of Sitting allotted to the public being very limited, the consequence was an inconvenient amount of crowding. A favoured few (of whom I thought myself very happy in being one) were admitted to reserved seats before the opening of the doors; but this privilege was by degrees so widely extended that when the doors were opened the space at the back of the hall was crowded to excess.

When the Deputies had assembled it was interesting to observe the rows of thoughtful and energetic faces on both sides of the Hall. It is necessary to mention that the conventional distinction of a right and left side is unknown in the Holstein Chamber. The seats on the left of the President's chair are chiefly occupied by the great landowners and nobles; whilst on the right are seated the representatives of the rural elective districts, the clergy, and others.

The President of the Diet was the individual who first riveted my attention. Baron Scheel-Plessen has a most remarkable countenance. His eyes are clear and penetrating, and there is an expression about his mouth which, though at times severely cynical, is more frequently indicative of good temper and kindness of feeling. His aspect at once justifies the choice of the Assembly which has elected him its President. On his right was seated the Royal Commissioner (the Minister Raaslöf), by birth a Dane, and by education a German. The false position in which this man stands plainly betrays itself in his man-



MEETING OF THE HOLSTEIN DIET AT ITZEOE - (FROM A SKETCH BY R. GIESLER)





THE DESTRUCTION OF THE NAVY YARD, NORFOLK, UNITED STATES—SEE PAGE 377.



ner. The natural expression of candour and sincerity which beams from his full clear eyes is at variance with the sentiments to which his tongue gives utterance. That he should be at heart very favourable to those German interests of which he declares himself adverse is, of course, not to be expected; yet his compromising and conciliatory tone is not calculated to gain him popularity in Copenhagen. At a little distance from Raaslof was seated Pastor Bersmann, who had been appointed to draw up the report of the committee. He is gifted with a powerful flow of eloquence; but he frequently indulges in a vein of sarcasm which is, perhaps, more sharply felt by the meaning implied than by the words actually spoken. Bersmann is one of the leaders of the Assembly, on which his speeches always produce a strong impression; for every word he utters has its purpose, and all that he says is prompted by thorough conviction. In marked contrast to Bersmann appears Count Reventlow-Jersbeck, whose courteous and dignified bearing has gained for him the surname of "der ritterliche" (the knightly). His utterance is slow and exceedingly distinct, and every word that falls from him tells like the thrust of a sword. The young advocate, Lehmann, of Kiel, is not remarkable for eloquence. His delivery is wanting in force, though what he says is sufficiently decided and sensible. In a torrent of sentences strung together without art, the Vice-President, Reincke, expounds his views; and, in defiance of all the ordinary rules of rhetoric, he enables his hearers to follow the thread of his discourse. Finally, Baron von Blome, with whom I shall close these brief and hurried sketches, combines a good delivery with a certain warmth of style and expression which goes, as it were, from heart to heart. Without altogether throwing off his habit of diplomatic reserve (he held during several years a diplomatic appointment in London), Baron Blome can, when occasion warrants, speak both emphatically and warmly. An instance of this occurred when, on the presentation of the report, the Royal Commissioner adverted to the possibility of the secession of Denmark from the Germanic Confederation. In his speech on that occasion Baron Blome quite electrified the Assembly by the solemn manner in which he declared "that he knew not the corner of the earth in which he could hide his shame should such an event ever come to pass!"

#### INNER LIFE OF THE HOUSE OF COMMONS.—NO. 163.

##### MR. DENMAN'S LONG SPEECH.

THE palm for making the longest speech of the Session must be awarded to the Hon. George Denman, son of Lord Denman, Barrister-at-Law and member for Tiverton. On the subject of Baron de Bode's claim he spoke for three hours by the clock. Members left him speaking when they went to dinner, and found him upon his legs when they came back. They wandered away to smoke a "quiet weed" below, or to the library to post up their correspondence for another hour, and when they returned he was still speaking. A man might have gone down to Brighton and dined, and returned whilst that speech was dragging its slow length along. Some of the members, when they returned from dining, thought that Mr. Denman was closing the debate with a reply, and were astounded to learn that, instead of closing, he was still only opening the discussion. It was said to be a very able speech; but very few members heard it all. Lord Palmerston sat it out, and so did the Attorney-General who had to reply to it; but the noble Lord quietly folded his arms, and went to sleep, as his custom is, and thus, though present in body, escaped the terrible infliction. Perhaps the only member that heard all the speech was the Attorney-General. Mr. Denman is the son of the First Lord of that name who signalled himself as the colleague of Lord Brougham in the defence of Queen Caroline, and was afterwards Lord Chief Justice of the Court of Queen's Bench. Mr. Denman is clever; but his speech was too long by half. Indeed, its unconscionable length made men think that the Baron de Bode's right must be exceedingly questionable if it required a three hours' speech to make it intelligible.

##### "ROB ME THE EXCHEQUER, HAL!"

The claim of Baron de Bode is for the nice little sum of £360,000, not to mention interest thereon for over forty years; and your readers will naturally wish to know what are the chances that he will get this pretty amount out of the English exchequer. "The House of Commons has granted a Committee to inquire. If the Committee report favourably will not the Chancellor of the Exchequer at once hand him over an order for the amount?" Not at all. There is much to be done before this can be done. There is an Act of Parliament to be passed; there must be a vote in supply proposed and carried, and a special provision made in Ways and Means in shape of a tax for such a sum as this. In short, dear reader, Baron de Bode stands about as much chance of getting this sum, or a sixpence of it, out of the English exchequer as you do. Nor ought he to have it; for the simple fact is that Baron de Bode's father was, to all intents and purposes, a French and not an English proprietor. He lived in France; the property was French; in short, he was a French emigrant. He ran away from his country in its agony; and, further, he actually, with his father, joined the Austrians and invaded his country; and now his son asks us to pay the penalty which he incurred. No, Baron; no. "The loser pays," you know. Your father took the wrong side, and lost. If he had won would he have shared his gains with us?

##### MR. SPOONER DROPS HIS MANTLE.

We have this week sorrowfully to announce that good Mr. Spooner has resigned his post of Protestant Champion. For many years he has sounded his war cry. In many a well-fought field he has opposed the Maynooth Grant. When it came before us as a vote in supply, he opposed it; when it was, to remove it out of his way, settled by an Act of Parliament, he still year after year, by moving for leave to bring in a bill to repeal the Act, continued to fight against it. But he has succumbed at last. Let not, however, our readers suppose that his zeal has flagged, for that burns in his breast as ardently as ever; or that his faith fails, for he still believes in his cause, and is still confident as ever of its ultimate success. No; it is not anything of that sort, but old age that compels him to resign. His spirit is willing as it ever was; but his bodily powers fail. And no wonder, for the good man is seven-eight years old; and is it not written that man has no right to expect that he will be strong and able after three score and ten? Well, in bidding farewell to Mr. Spooner, we have thus much to say. We do not often agree with him; but that he is an honest, sincere, and good man we never had a doubt; and we trust that the remainder of his days, be they few or many, he may live in peace.

##### MR. WHALLEY TAKES IT UP.

The mantle of Mr. Spooner ought to have been taken up by Mr. Newdegate, for he was by all recognised as the Elisha; and why he did not take it we cannot say; but he has not. Mr. Whalley, the Radical member for Peterborough, has seized it, and now stands forth as the Protestant champion, vice Spooner, resigned. Some say that Mr. Newdegate meant to seize the prophetic garment, but gave up his pretensions upon the politic plea that it would strengthen the cause to have a champion from the other side of the House. However this may be, Mr. Whalley is regularly installed as Mr. Spooner's successor in this holy war, and last week opened the campaign in due form. But, somehow, the House did not relish the change. Mr. Spooner was always listened to with respect, but Mr. Whalley had to speak against a storm of impatient cries, which must have been very discouraging to a young aspirant for fame. Mr. Whalley, however, got on pretty well, faced the storm manfully, and must have delighted his new friends by the energy, zeal, and enthusiasm with which he entered upon his work. It was, however, rather a strange thing to hear such a speech from below the gangway, on the Liberal side of the House—as strange as it would be to hear Lord Robert Cecil advocate vote by ballot, Mr. Bentinck perorate

upon the advantages of free trade or Mr. Bright discourse upon the blessings of an Established Church.

##### HE IS SNUFFED OUT.

But Mr. Whalley did not on this first attempt in his new character leave the stage in a very dignified manner; on the contrary, anything more ungraceful than his exit cannot well be imagined. Mr. Whalley in his first speech got on very well; but in his second, by way of reply, he was received by such a chorus of groans that he lost his self-possession, and got, as we say, regularly "snuffed out," amidst peals of laughter from all sides of the House. The operation was performed in this way. Angry that he was not allowed to reply without interruption, he suddenly turned round upon his enemies and indignantly threatened, if they would not hear him, he would move the adjournment of the debate. Whereupon Mr. Speaker rose to remind the hon. member that he could not, by the rules of the House, move an adjournment. Of course, when Mr. Speaker rose Mr. Whalley sat down, intending, no doubt, when Mr. Speaker should sit down to rise again and continue his reply; but Mr. Speaker did not sit down, but proceeded to put the question and close the debate. This move of the Speaker prematurely to close a debate was loudly cheered by the Opposition; but grave men shook their heads, and in the conversations which took place upon this matter in private it was universally acknowledged that Mr. Speaker was wrong. He was wrong, perhaps, in rising to correct Mr. Whalley before he actually moved the adjournment, but he was certainly wrong in not sitting down when he had administered the correction. However, the House was too well pleased to get rid of Mr. Whalley and Maynooth and go to dinner formally to notice the error.

##### A NEW METHOD OF PRESENTING PETITIONS.

Mr. John Aloisius Blake, the member for Waterford, has discovered a new method of presenting petitions which is very ingenious, highly to be commended, and will be in certain cases probably generally adopted. By the rules of the House you cannot draw special attention to a petition unless you give beforehand a special notice; the presentation of petitions therefore is now a very formal business. Hundreds are presented, sometimes, in a night, and scarcely a soul besides the presenters knows whence they come, or what they are about. But mark how cleverly Mr. Blake presented his petition in favour of the Galway subsidy so as to attract thereto the attention of the whole House, without infringing the rules. It was a formidable document this petition of Mr. Blake, measured forty-five yards, was signed by upwards of five thousand people, and was in bulk as much as a man could well carry. The hon. member, having read the petition through, proceeded to carry it up to the table; but, instead of bearing it neatly rolled up under his arm, he managed cleverly to let one end of it drop upon the floor, and by some process unintelligible to us allowed the petition to unroll itself as he walked, so as to leave a long trail of paper behind him which reached from the bar to the table. The House was highly amused at this accident, for accident it was generally supposed to be, and peals of laughter and shouts rang from both sides of the House. Meanwhile Mr. Blake, having arrived at the table, tried to roll up the document again; but, strangely enough, the more he rolled the more the petition seemed to unroll, till at length the honourable member got it into such confusion that he was high becoming inextricably involved in its coils as Laocoon was in the folds of the serpent. But at this juncture Mr. Brady rushed to the help of his friend, and with his strong and long arms gathered the unmanageable folds in a heap, and handed the mass to a messenger who promptly made his appearance from behind the chair, and he conveyed it out of the House. Some say that all this was accidental, and not done by design; and perhaps it might be so. But, if so, we have one more instance to be added to a long list of great discoveries made by accidents. Mr. Blake wished to draw special attention to this precious manuscript, and could he have done it more effectually if he had given a week's notice of presentation, and introduced the petition by an hour's speech? Accident or no accident, Mr. Blake effectually succeeded in his purpose. We venture, however, to think that there were not wanting marks of design in the process adopted by Mr. Blake. Perhaps there was a mixture of both accident and design. An accident at first adopted, not without a touch of Irish humour, by design, as was the case in the grand discovery of the notable "Irish Blackguard" snuff of Mr. Landyfoot, who, having spoiled a lot of snuff by over-baking it, sent the spoiled snuff into the market as a new and recherche article, and ultimately made his fortune by the accidental discovery.

##### THE PAPER TAX REPEALED.

My Lords have passed the bill. On the second reading there was a large gathering in the Upper House of Peers which threatened mischief; and to the last some anxiety was felt as to the result. Below the bar some twenty members of Parliament assembled to watch the course of events; and at the foot of the throne we noticed Sir James Graham and Mr. Gladstone, who stood there by right of privy councillorship. The anxiety did not, however, last long; and when Lord Derby announced that he should no further oppose the measure Peers and Commons almost all took their flight. The bill was read a third time and passed on Tuesday last, and on Wednesday it received the Royal assent by commission; and thus ends this memorable fight.

THE TAEPIING IN CHINA.—The correspondence which has been laid before Parliament respecting the opening of the Yang-Tse-Kiang River to foreign trade gives a deplorable account of the Taeping movement or rebellion, and seems fully to justify Vice-Admiral Sir J. Hope in writing, as he does, that he can regard it in no other light than that of an organised band of robbers. Their policy is, after plundering such towns as they can capture, to convert those they hold into mere garrisons, excluding the general population not essential to their wants, and to destroy those of which they do not retain possession, in order to render them useless to the Imperial Government. Mr. Parkes says, in an account of his visit to Hwang-Chow, which is fifty miles from Hankow, on the 22nd of March, that the city was entirely deserted by the people, and the houses gutted by the rebels. When he was there, less than a fortnight before, it contained a population of 40,000; they had now all fled. The general appearance of the rebels was that of a mob. He was introduced to the Taeping Prince, Ying-wang, who described himself as charged to relieve Nanking, which was besieged by the Imperial forces. Mr. Parkes suggested that he should not move upon Hankow, which he had some idea of doing, as it was one of the ports at which we were established, and would seriously interfere with our commerce, and in this he readily acquiesced. On the 24th of March Mr. Parkes was at Nanking, where he found the rebels had destroyed all but the few streets necessary to give shelter to their garrison. He reached Woo-Hoo a few days afterwards, and reports that the site of its extensive suburbs can now only be traced by brick-heaps, and the same may almost be said of the city itself; it has been known as one of the principal emporia on the Yang-Tse. Taeping, a place of some note, twenty miles from this, presents a like scene; "the city is obliterated." The lately flourishing port of Soo-Chow is quite destroyed, and miles of country round it will soon be covered with jungle. The party who visited it flushed teal in the city moat, where a year ago it was barely possible to find a passage from the immense number of boats. The banks of the Grand Canal, along which is a broad road, are literally white with human bones; human remains lie about in all directions, but the water is supposed to cover a still larger number of victims. The fugitives, however, are now returning to the villages around Nanking, and they will soon be peopled, unless again disturbed. Sir J. Hope, in his despatch of the 6th of April, says he considers the only course to be to endeavour to obtain the recognition by both parties of the neutrality of our consular ports, which would then become places of security in which the Chinese merchants and capitalists could take refuge, as at Shanghai.

THE DEAF AND DUMB.—Her Majesty has been graciously pleased to contribute £50 to the building fund of the Association in Aid of the Deaf and Dumb (office, 309, Regent-street) for the purpose of erecting a place of worship in which the service will be conducted in the finger and sign language; also a home for the aged, a lecture and reading room, &c. The donation is the result of a petition signed by more than three hundred deaf and dumb persons. The Bishop of London has ordained the Rev. S. Smith as Chaplain of the above association for this special work. A grand bazaar on behalf of this object will be held in the Hanover-square Rooms on Tuesday and Wednesday next.

## Imperial Parliament.

FRIDAY, JUNE 7.

### HOUSE OF LORDS.

#### THE BUDGET.

LORD GRANVILLE, on rising to move the second reading of the Customs Inland Revenue Bill, said he could hardly consider the Duke of Rutland serious in proposing a motion adverse to the bill, for nothing could be more alarming than that the House of Lords should place itself in collision with the other House of Parliament on this subject. The provisions of the bill were not made in any fanciful manner, but in the ordinary mode in which all past Chancellors of the Exchequer had made their calculations, and from these it appeared there was a surplus of £2,000,000 in round numbers. Although doubts had been expressed as to this surplus, he believed them to be utterly false. Lord Granville then proceeded to explain the reasons which had induced the Government to continue the tea and sugar duties and to abolish the excise duty on paper. Their Lordships had objected to the repeal of the paper duty, not because they considered the tax good in itself, but because the revenue was not in a condition to dispense with its contribution. Now, however, that there was a surplus, the Government was justified in proposing its repeal. In regard to the inclusion of the principal parts of the financial scheme into one measure, it was strictly according to precedents. The course of the House of Lords last year in rejecting the bill was, to say the least, "unusual;" nevertheless, the House of Commons had behaved with the greatest moderation, and this bill had been brought in in its present form in order to restore that House to the position it ought to occupy in the taxation of the country. He trusted the Duke of Rutland would withdraw his motion.

The Duke of Rutland said his objections to the bill were that he doubted the existence of a surplus. He thought that other taxes ought to be repealed before the duty on paper, and that the form in which the bill came before the House was objectionable. In the present condition of affairs in Europe and America, when it was impossible to say how long peace might be preserved, it was most inopportune to abolish the duty on paper, especially in the state of warlike preparation which was going on in France and England. He declined to accede to Lord Granville's suggestion of withdrawing the motion.

LORD DERBY said that, in spite of his high opinion of the Duke of Rutland's opinion and character, he could not concur with the practical conclusion at which he had arrived, although he agreed with him in regarding the bill as objectionable in substance and in form—in substance because he thought that if a surplus existed there were taxes pressing heavily on the poorer classes which had a preferential claim for repeal over the paper duty, and in form because the bill was sent up in one measure in order to preclude the House from exercising its judgment upon it. Briefly alluding to the reasons which had induced him to follow the course he had pursued last year on this question, and of the effect of the decision of the House in contributing to reduce the deficiency of the present year by £1,250,000, the amount of the retained paper duty, he proceeded to discuss the Budget for the present year, and pointed out the means by which Mr. Gladstone had replaced the deficiency of the previous year by a surplus, and expressed his surprise that the House of Commons had been cajoled by so transparent a fallacy. He did not dispute the existence of a surplus; but the question was, how could it be best employed? He was ready to admit that the paper duty was an objectionable tax, and one which, if there were an overflowing exchequer, ought to be repealed; but its repeal would not work the marvels which were prophesied, and would only benefit editors of penny newspapers and the makers of bandboxes. The whole question was, however, a financial one; and, as the House of Commons had by a small majority decided on the repeal of the paper duty, he did not wish to take the responsibility of advising the House to set themselves in opposition to that decision, especially as the position of the question in the last and the present year was widely different. Lord Derby next examined at some length the right of the Lords to alter a money bill, contending that they had that right, and supporting his arguments by quotations from various authorities, of whom Mr. Fox was one; but considered that it was unwise for either House to push its privileges to the utmost, and to manifest an unconciliatory spirit. Adverting to the mode in which the House of Commons had dealt with "Task Bills," he admitted the right of the Commons in that particular, but objected strongly to the manner in which it had been exercised in proposing to take away a permanent and substitute a purely temporal one. It had been suggested that their Lordships should divide the present measure into two bills and send them back to the House of Commons; and, although their Lordships undoubtedly had the power to do so, he strongly deprecated a course which would appear retaliatory. He could not concur with Lord Granville that the bill was of a conciliatory character; on the contrary, he considered Mr. Gladstone had allowed himself to be influenced by feelings of mortification at its rejection last year, and had indulged those feelings in the present bill. He earnestly hoped, however, the motion of the Duke of Rutland would not be pressed.

The Duke of ARGYLL, having expressed a hope that they had now reached the close of this controversy, defended Mr. Gladstone's financial arrangements from the fierce onslaught of Lord Derby. He reminded Lord Derby that he himself, when in power, had admitted the impolicy of retaining the paper duty as a permanent source of revenue. In regard to the form of the bill, it was unusual, perhaps, in recent years, but not unconstitutional.

LORD GRAY, having congratulated the House on the course it had pursued on this question last year, hoped that the Duke of Rutland would withdraw his motion. He was glad to see the principle that the House had the right of rejection had been established, but he quite agreed with Lord Derby that the right should be exercised with judgment. As to the Budget of the present year, he believed it to be eminently speculative. Lord Grey concluded by remarking upon the different opinions held by different members of the Government as especially exemplified in the measures for putting the country in a state of defence, and said that the public had a right to ask the Government to lay down and adhere to more certain rules for the regulation of the expenditure.

LORD MONTEAGLE, while declining to ask their Lordships to reject this measure, recommended them to accept it with caution, lest they might lay down a principle which should be capable of indefinite application, and should restrict the rights of the House.

The Duke of Rutland having withdrawn his amendment, Earl Granville briefly replied; and

The bill was then read a second time.

Their Lordships then adjourned.

### HOUSE OF COMMONS.

#### THE AMERICAN QUARREL.

Colonel PATTEN, adverting to a notice upon the paper by the hon. member for Galway to call attention to the expediency of the prompt recognition of the Southern Confederacy of America, appealed to him whether he considered it absolutely necessary to proceed with the notice.

Mr. GREGORY said his object in giving the notice had been to endeavour to obtain a hearing for the Southern States, and that the House might have a fair and impartial account of the differences between the two sections. He would not, however, put himself in opposition to the wishes of the House, which evinced so strong a feeling on the subject, and would, therefore, postpone his motion for the present.

An attempt to prolong the discussion was checked by the Speaker, there being no question before the House.

#### THE APPOINTMENT OF GENERAL EDEN.

On the motion that the House go into Committee of Supply, Mr. CONINGHAM called attention to the appointment of Major-General M. Eden to the colonelcy of the 50th Foot. He thought nothing could be more unfair than this selection; that it was not merely a good man, but the best, that should be selected for such an appointment. Mr. T. G. BARING explained the principle upon which these appointments were recommended by the Commander-in-Chief, and made by the Secretary of State for War, who was responsible for them. The principle had been carried out in the case of General Eden, whose selection he justified.

#### COUNT CAVOUR.

A discussion upon this subject was diverted to another topic by Sir R. PEEL, who, referring to the death of Count Cavour, suggested that the House might express and record its deep sympathy with Italy in the loss sustained by the premature death of so distinguished a statesman.

LORD J. RUSSELL said, having been engaged in diplomatic transactions with Count Cavour, he could not but feel it due to his memory to say that never man had more devoted himself—heart, mind, and soul—to his country than Count Cavour.

The O'DONOGHUE dissented entirely from the sentiments expressed by Sir R. Peel and Lord J. Russell towards one whose policy had been hostility to the temporal power of the Pope, and in whose death he saw the finger of God's justice.

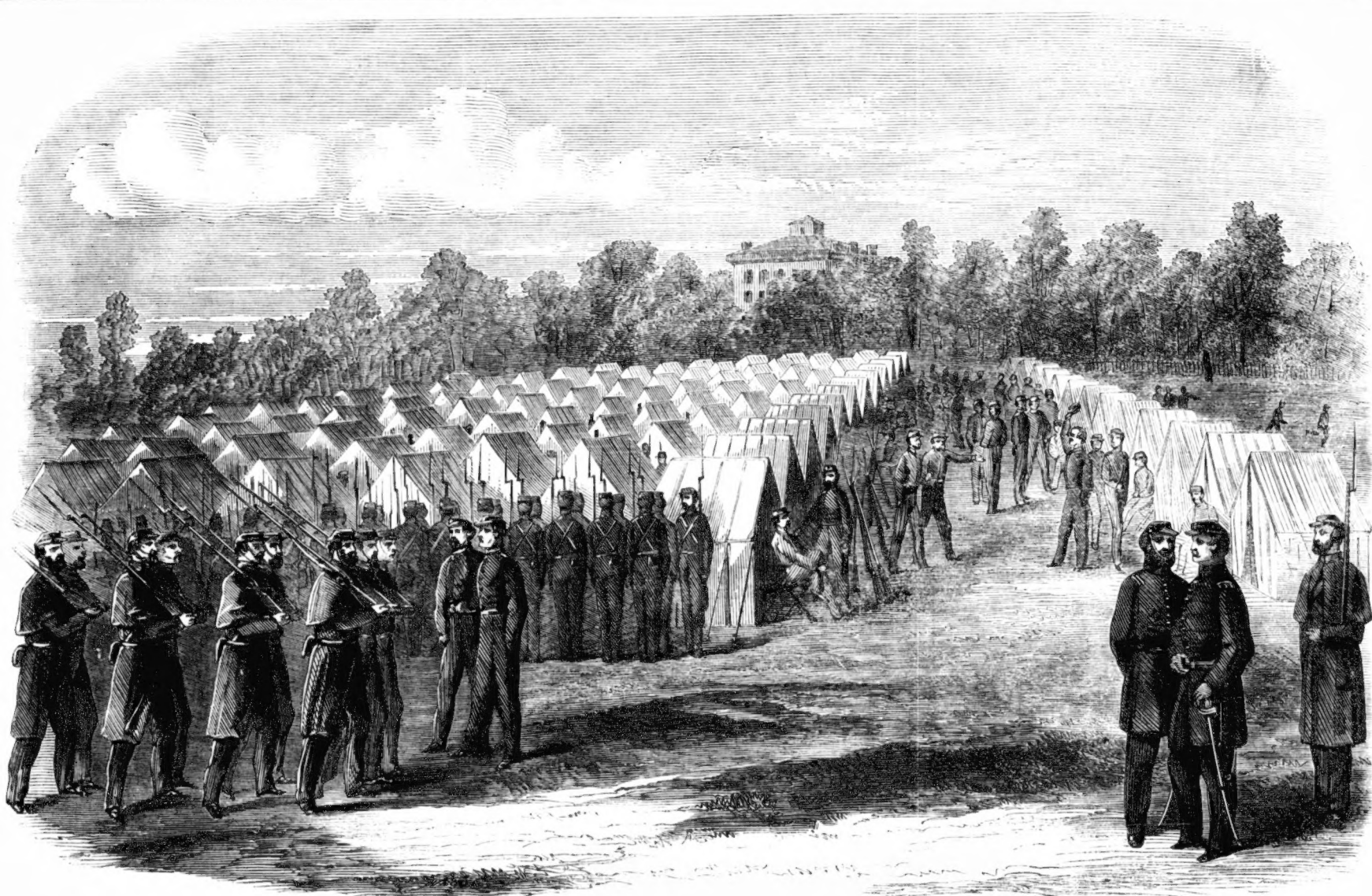
Mr. M. MILNES observed that it was not intended to provoke a dispute over the dead body of a great man, but to express their sense of the mighty loss which Europe had sustained.

LORD PALMERSTON, after pointing out the objections to any formal record upon this subject, and suggesting that they should be content with an expression of sympathy in the House, said he concurred in such sympathy and in a feeling of deep regret for the loss, not only to his country but to the whole of Europe, of a distinguished man, whose memory would be embalmed in the history of the world, who, dying prematurely for his country, had not died too soon for his own glory.

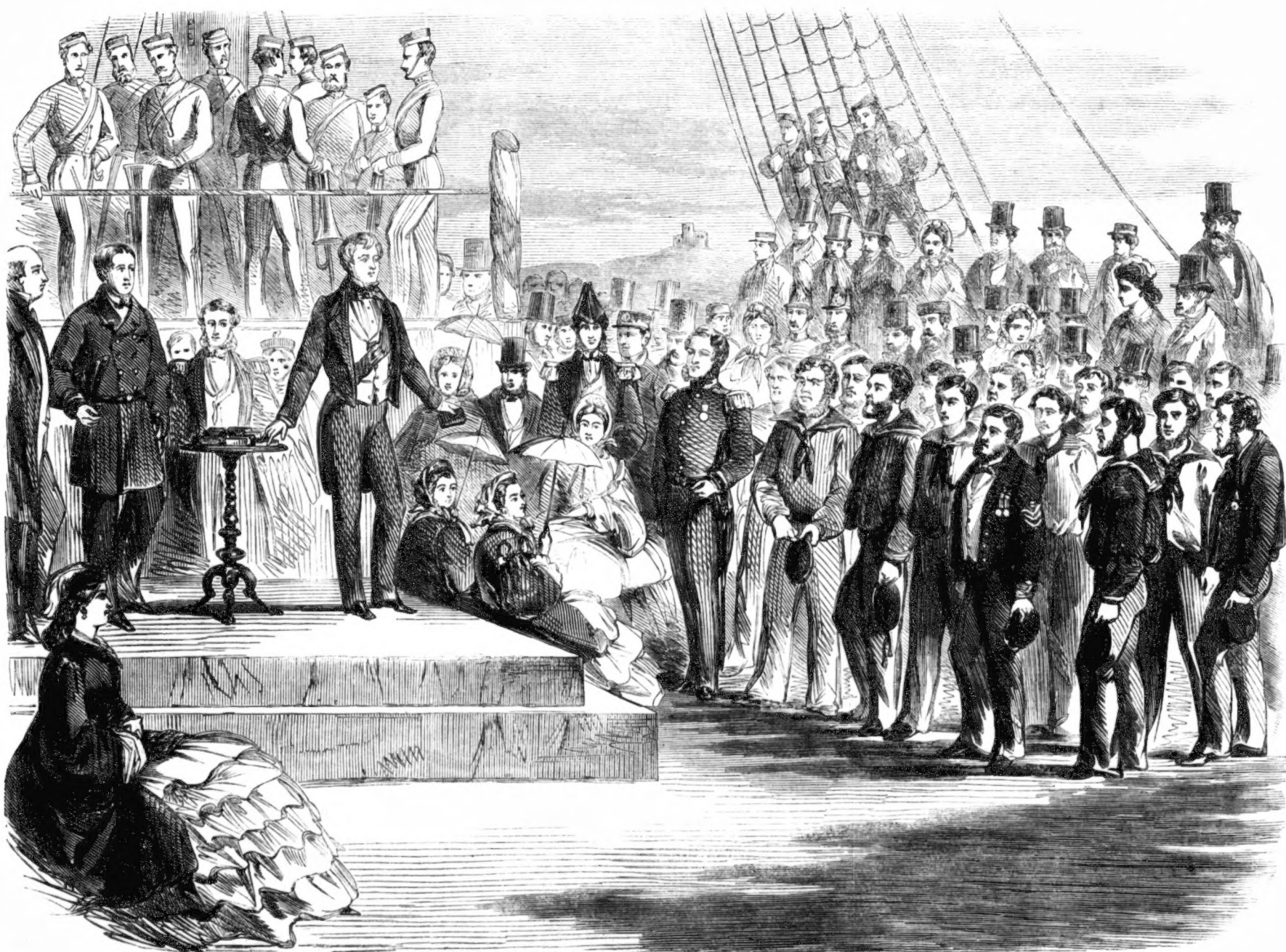


THE EAST INDIA COMPANY.—A general court of the proprietors of the East India Company was held on Wednesday. The chairman complained that the Government acted with parsimony towards the company by not allowing them an adequate sum to defray their travelling expenses. A resolution condemning Sir Charles Wood's bill with regard to the civil service of India was also adopted.



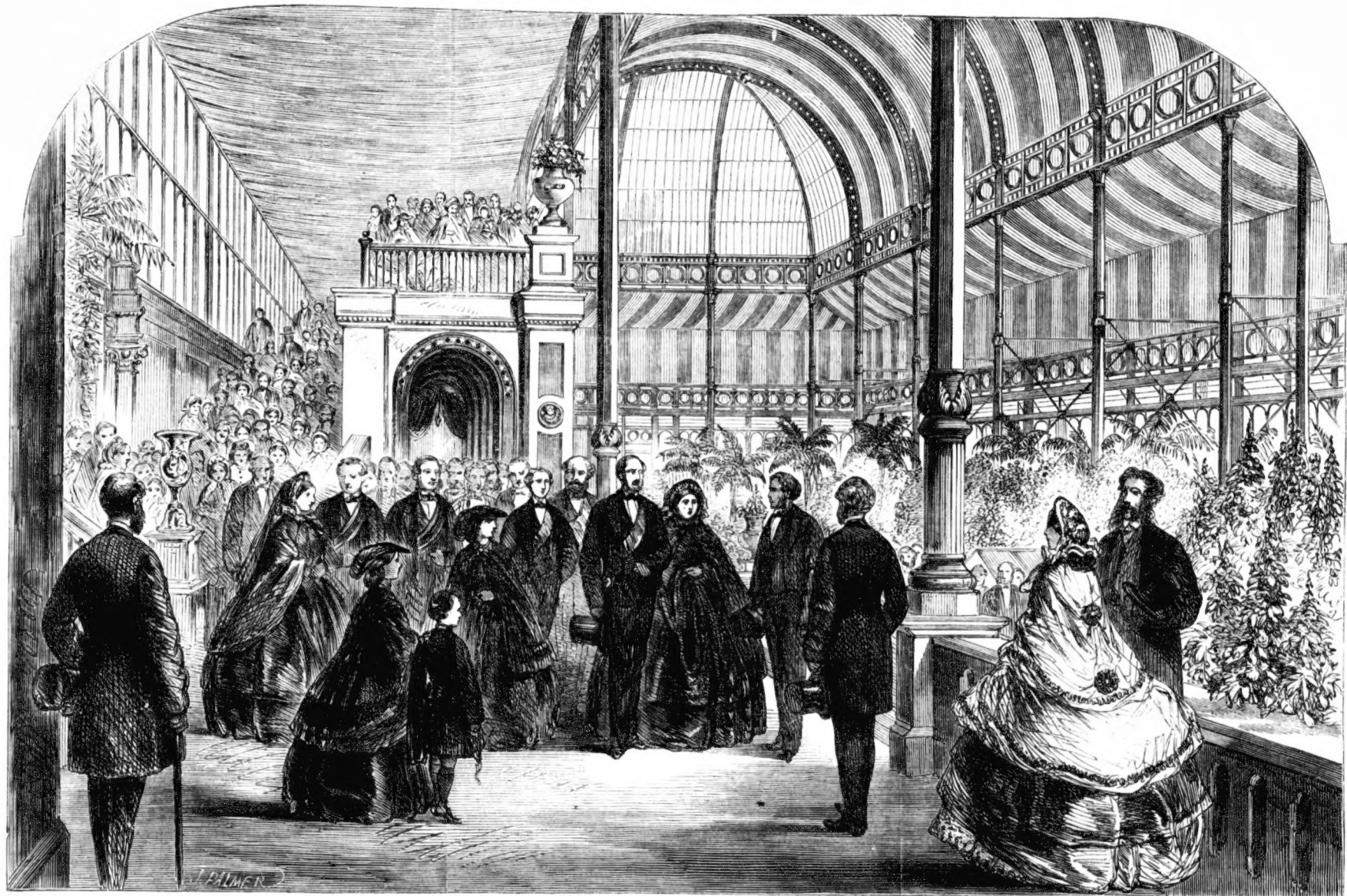


THE CIVIL WAR IN AMERICA: THE CAMP OF THE NEW YORK 7TH REGIMENT ON GEORGETOWN HEIGHTS, WASHINGTON.—(FROM A SKETCH BY A. R. WARD.)

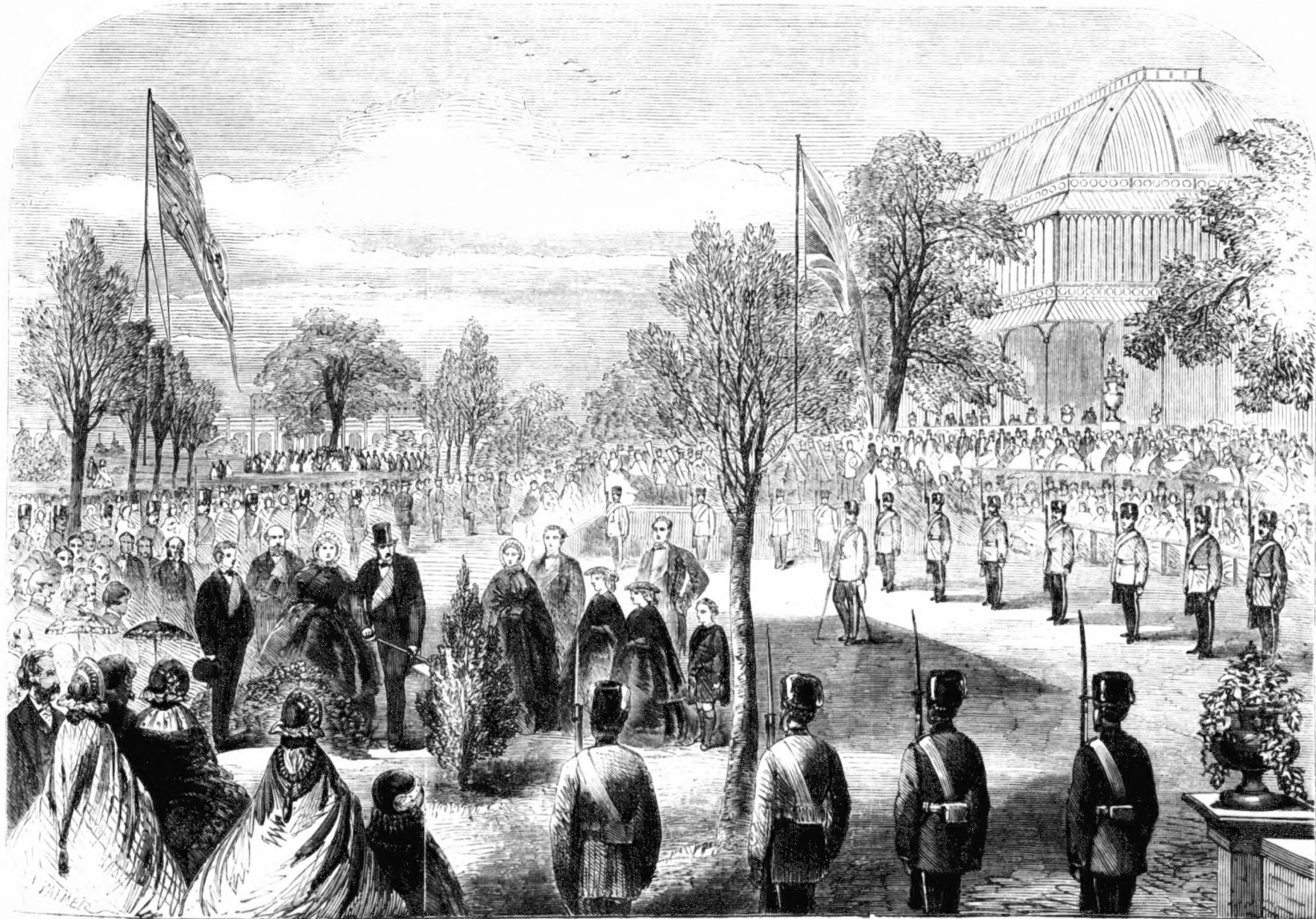


PRESENTATION OF TAYLEUR MEDALS TO THE SURVIVING MEMBERS OF CAPTAIN BOYD'S CREW, BY HIS EXCELLENCY THE EARL OF CARLISLE





THE NEW GARDENS OF THE ROYAL HORTICULTURAL SOCIETY.—THE PRINCE CONSORT AND PARTY PASSING THROUGH THE GREAT CONSERVATORY.



THE PRINCE CONSORT PLANTING A TREE IN COMMEMORATION OF THE OPENING OF THE NEW GARDENS OF THE ROYAL HORTICULTURAL SOCIETY.



## THE OPENING OF THE HORTICULTURAL GARDENS.

To the report we last week gave of the inauguration of the gardens of the Royal Horticultural Society we now add two Engravings illustrative of that ceremony. The most interesting part of it, perhaps, was the planting of the Wellingtonia gigantea, presented for that purpose by Mr. Veitch. It was a very fine young tree of eight years old, about seven feet high, and (for its size) with a very thick stem and bark. This was a seedling specimen of those mammoth Californian trees (part of the bark of one of which is erected at the Crystal Palace) which fill the steep valley at the foot of the Great Yosemite Falls. The ceremony—which was of course merely formal—was soon accomplished by the Prince Consort; and the Royal party, after devoting half an hour to an inspection of the flower show, and more especially to the collection of orchids in the conservatory, partook of refreshments, and quitted the grounds. The whole ceremony, from the time the Prince entered the grounds, occupied about two hours.

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## ILLUSTRATED TIMES.

SATURDAY, JUNE 15, 1861.

## THE VACANT SEATS IN PARLIAMENT.

THE disfranchisement of Sudbury and St. Albans, long ago, leave four seats in the House of Commons to be disposed of. On Monday the Government, desirous to deal in some way with Reform this Session, introduced a scheme for the appropriation of these seats; and honourable members mustered in great strength and vivacity to mangle it. The result was a very entertaining and instructive discussion.

The proposition of the Government started from this basis: that, as the vacant seats were forfeited by English constituencies, and the representation of England had been thereby diminished, they should be given to other English constituencies. One seat was to be bestowed on Lancashire, another on the West Riding of Yorkshire; while Birkenhead, and Chelsea and Kensington, were to form two new boroughs, returning a member each.

The claims of these places were all good enough, but, unhappily, they all had opponents who advocated the claims of other places. Lord Jermyn objected to the whole scheme in favour of the disfranchised boroughs. Sudbury and St. Albans, he said, had been very naughty, no doubt; but other boroughs had been guilty too—Wakefield and Gloucester notoriously—and while they were permitted to retain their electoral honours it was unfair to quench the remorseful hopes of Sudbury, by signing away its privileges for ever. The House, his Lordship said, ought first to consider what should be its future procedure with respect to constituencies which had sinned as greatly, "and even more grossly, because their offences had been committed in an age which it was the fashion to believe breathed a purer spirit of political morality than that which preceded it." No doubt there is some force in this objection. The corruption of Wakefield and Gloucester, though not so flagrant as that of the disfranchised boroughs, was proved as clearly; and nobody will contend that it is necessary for a borough to go the length to which Sudbury went, and advertise itself for sale, before it falls under the penalty of disfranchisement. But Sudbury and St. Albans were not only so unfortunate as to be "found out;" they were duly tried, convicted, and sentenced; and the sentence isn't to be revoked because we have not settled how other criminals shall be punished. Therefore Lord Jermyn's motion for shelving the bill altogether had little chance, and was, in fact, rejected by nearly ten votes to one. However, there was something encouraging to the lover of a Parliamentary mêlée in such an opening of the discussion. Mr. Collins, the member for Knaresborough, next entered the ring, armed with electoral facts and bristling with figures. He argued that two seats out of the four should be given to Yorkshire; whereupon there was another division. Mr. Collins's proposition was charged by a large majority, and carried out of the field lifeless by eighty-one supporters. Entered then the Irish Brigade, claiming one seat for Dublin and one for "Corkshire." Division, and the Irish routed. Mr. Stirling had already spoken for the Scotch Universities, without, however, urging their pretensions in a substantive motion—which yet remains to be made, unless the Government withdraw the bill altogether. More was done on behalf of Salford; but so little encouragement did Mr. Bazley's advocacy of this borough receive that his motion was withdrawn.

By this time—by the failure of all these amendments—the first and second clauses of the bill, endowing Yorkshire and Lancashire with an additional representative, had been adopted; and now came the proposition to create a new constituency in Chelsea and Kensington. From the first it was foreseen that this clause would not pass without strong opposition. Admitting all that can be said (and it is much) for the wealth, intelligence, and numbers of the population of Chelsea and Kensington, the doubt remains whether it be desirable to run the risk of swelling the roll of those vestry-sent politicians

who wield the vast influence of our metropolitan constituencies.

It may be unfair to presume that as Marylebone only hesitates between Harvey Lewis and Harper Twelvetees, so in Chelsea Nicholays and Inwardses would arise to return men of similar stamp; but, at the same time, it must be admitted that our experience east, north, and south of London is such as to justify the most serious misgivings. While, therefore, many Liberals might have been expected to vote against the Government proposition on this ground, political conviction alone authorised every Conservative to oppose it, since Chelsea would almost certainly return a series of Radicals, if it did not stoop to adventurers, or aspirants whose popularity is cultivated in the kitchen. The disgusting dread of all enlightened Liberals, then, joined to the party opposition of the Conservatives, might very well have overthrown the pretensions of Chelsea had they been pitted against Yorkshire or the Scotch Universities, say; but Mr. Knightley took a course which rendered the defeat of the Government certain. He simply moved the omission of the words "Chelsea and Kensington" from the clause—a motion which united the advocates of the counties, of the universities, of Ireland, and the Conservative members generally. Sir George Lewis saw at once that he was beaten, and raised a feeble cry of complaint, which, however, was only derided. The aspirations of Chelsea were quenched.

We cannot honestly condole with Chelsea; for we are amongst those who fear that a new metropolitan constituency would add nothing to the efficiency of the House of Commons. England would not be a bit better governed, and it would be much more misrepresented, were fifty more electoral bodies created to return fifty members of the low metropolitan standard. We stick to our old view of Reform—that though an extension of the franchise is very desirable, what we need most is more brains, more experience, more character, in the House of Commons itself. Now, while we fear that the prospect of obtaining this by means of enfranchising Chelsea is small, we cannot doubt—nobody can doubt—that if a vote be given either to the Scotch Universities or to the London University that vote will always be intrusted to a man of proved capacity. Party considerations we put entirely out of the question. The Scotch Universities are scarcely more likely to return a Tory than Chelsea and Kensington; but we may rely upon their sending a man of brains and education to an assembly wherein both are at least desirable. We hope, then, that Sir James Graham or Mr. Stirling may succeed in obtaining one of the vacant seats either for the London University or for the Universities of Scotland.

## MR. COBDEN.

THE freedom of the City was presented to Mr. Cobden at a Court of Common Council held in the Guildhall on Thursday week, after having been made a free Fishmonger by that company. At the Guildhall Mr. Scott delivered the usual panegyric upon the recipient of the freedom, especially applauding the labours of Mr. Cobden in France. Mr. Cobden made a speech, in answer, on the treaty, the good faith of the French Government, the superior quality of the brains of the French, and the inconsistency of two nations like England and France making a commercial treaty, and also developing their naval and maritime power. France and England, he said, were naturally intended to be the best possible friends.

But even now there is much that is doing by the Governments of the two countries which is calculated to fill us with disappointment, if not with dismay. Probably at no time in our history—and I say it advisedly—had France and England so large a warlike preparation in the only means of war by which they can be brought into collision as at this moment. It is not too much to say that at no period of our history were ever France and England so prepared by formidable naval forces for hostile operations against each other as at present. And this is going on—if we may believe what we read and hear—at the present moment, simultaneously with this commercial treaty, which is intended to facilitate the intercourse between the two nations. There is something saddening and inconsistent in this fact. . . . I say, and I say it advisedly, that there is something wanting on the part of both Governments simultaneously with such state of things, that they should themselves exhibit in the face of the world an attitude of constantly increasing menace and defiance by their warlike preparations. I know the stereotyped answer we have heard to this, that if you would preserve peace, prepare for war. That is an old maxim, but experience has not proved to us its wisdom in practice. I have acted upon a different maxim. I say, if you would preserve peace, prepare for peace. . . . I am not going to enlarge upon this subject, but I say, emphatically and advisedly, that this commercial treaty must be practically incomplete—I was going to say that it will be a mockery—so long as the Governments of these two great countries maintain their present attitude of hostility, or at least of defence, against each other. I speak of their naval preparations solely because we are come to the point now that there is no other country that is making any great naval preparations except France and England. But they are avowedly preparing a hostile, or at least a system of defence against each other, and I say that it is the duty of both the Governments to endeavour to take such steps as may allay the uneasiness and anxiety which must prevail in the minds of merchants, manufacturers, and commercial men of business in both countries so long as this attitude exists—an attitude so opposed to those feelings, views, and preparations which are necessary in order to realise the full benefits of this treaty.

LIGHTING THE BRITISH MUSEUM BY NIGHT.—The evidence on this subject of Mr. Braidwood, superintendent of the London Fire Engine Establishment, contained in his letter to Mr. Panizzi, has been printed by order of the House of Lords. Mr. Braidwood thinks that the building might be lighted with candles or oil with comparative safety, but he sets himself inflexibly against gas in every form, but especially the sun-burners now so popular. Gas, by despoiling everything within its reach, so increases the inflammability of a building, and is attended with so much danger of explosion, even when all precautions have been taken, that he thinks a building intended to last for ages, and containing so much invaluable property as the British Museum, should on no consideration be subjected to the risk of its introduction. Mr. Sydney Smirke, the architect to the trustees, in a letter printed with that of Mr. Braidwood, expresses more mildly his doubts as the expediency of introducing gas into the interior of the Museum. The trustees have accordingly resolved that "they would not be justified in allowing the collections of the Museum to be open at any hour which would require gas-light."

THE OUTRAGE BY ENGLISH OFFICERS IN THE GREAT MOSQUE AT CAIRO.—The two findings of the court-martial which sat at Calcutta to try Lieut. W. C. L. Brown for mocking the action of the worshippers in the mosque at Cairo during a great festival, and the general order of the Commander-in-Chief thereupon, have been printed as a return to an order of the House of Commons. The Commander-in-Chief confirms, but declines to approve, the very lenient revised finding of the Court, upon which he throws "the entire responsibility of having decreed that a British officer may deliberately and wilfully mock in public and insult the religious feelings of a whole community, and that he is to be excused on a plea of thoughtlessness, that plea, moreover, being unstained by a particle of evidence." In like manner the Commander-in-Chief declines to approve, although he confirms, the finding of the same Court in the cases of Captain Cox, Lieut. J. H. Alexander, and Lieut. J. A. M. Patton, concerned in a secondary degree in outrages offered at the same time at the mosque. He, however, praises the mainly candour with which Lieut. Patton declared his own misconduct, "a solitary instance, the Commander-in-Chief regrets to say, on the part of those implicated in the painful occurrences at Cairo."

## SAYINGS AND DOINGS.

PRINCE FREDERICK OF PRUSSIA AND THE PRINCESS ROYAL will visit England with their infant son in the course of the next month, we hear.

PRINCE LEOPOLD AND PRINCE ARTHUR have been attacked with measles, and the Princess Beatrice is suffering under the same complaint.

THE MARRIAGE OF PRINCESS ALICE with Prince Louis of Hesse is not likely to take place this year, but at what period in 1862 it is to be celebrated has yet to be settled; in every probability it will be early in the season.

M. DE LESSEPS has succeeded in inducing the Viceroy of Egypt to employ forced labour for the Suez Canal. Only one thousand labourers have yet been impressed. The work will take fifty thousand labourers to begin with, and forced labour kills off Egyptian labourers like a violent epidemic.

MR. CARDEN is, according to the Irish papers, still haunting Miss Arbuthnot; go where she will he pursues her. At present she is staying at Lisdoonvarna Spa, in the county of Clare, and she is obliged to have police in the vicinity, to save her from annoyance from this gentleman on her going to and returning from the spas.

CAPTAIN PICQUARD, of the French Imperial navy, has been inspecting the ships belonging to the steam ordinary at Plymouth; he being allowed to examine one ship attached to each of the three divisions.

A MEETING OF THE MEDICAL PROFESSION OF SCOTLAND was held yesterday week at Edinburgh, for the purpose of considering the propriety of obtaining some modification of the provisions of the law affecting the insane.

THE *Moniteur*, under cover of a letter purporting to be written from London (but which there is every reason to believe was written in Paris), makes an extraordinary attack on Sir John Pakington and the Conservative party, the provoking cause being the late speech of the Right Hon. Baronet disclosing the great increase of French iron-cased ships.

THE *Globe* relates, on "the best authority," that no volunteers have been raised in Canada for the Federal Government of America.

CONSIDERABLE SICKNESS is reported to have prevailed in our African squadron.

THERE WAS ANOTHER LANDSLIP on Saturday on the London Underground Railway, by which a labourer was killed.

THE EMPRESS OF AUSTRIA, since her return from Madeira, has been rather suffering in health, the sudden change of temperature having produced a bad effect on her delicate constitution. Her Majesty will pass the winter in a mild climate, most likely at Seville.

THERE HAS BEEN ONE PETITION to the House of Commons, signed by one person, against the dowry to Princess Alice.

THE LONG-EXPECTED AMBASSADORS FROM THE KING OF SIAM, bearing presents for the Emperor of the French, have arrived in Paris.

RUMOUR mentions that a plan is contemplated in furtherance of opera in English and English opera, the prime movers of which are an association of publishers.

MR. J. STUART MILL is now in Paris. A few days since he was present at the monthly dinner of the Society of Political Economy. An unusually large attendance of members collected to do him honour, and M. Michel Chevalier was in the chair.

A LETTER in the *Neue Preussische Zeitung* says that in the course of certain trials of artillery in the harbour of L'Orient, a projectile was discovered which pierces the very best iron sheathing—a discovery, the writer adds, which, as it cannot be long kept secret, seems to have excited misgivings as to the efficiency of the steel-clad frigates.

THE BISHOP OF DURHAM'S SON-IN-LAW AND DOMESTIC CHAPLAIN, the Rev. E. Cheese, has just completed arrangements for the endowment, out of his own rectory, of the district chapelry of Sadberge, in Houghton-le-Skerne.

THE TRIAL OF MIREX has been adjourned for a fortnight. The prisoner was in court when the arrangement was made. He is represented as being greatly changed in appearance by the imprisonment he has undergone.

BLONDIN'S THIRD ASCENT on Monday attracted 18,363 persons to witness his extraordinary performances. He will make his fourth appearance to-day (Saturday).

THE EMPEROR OF THE FRENCH, on Wednesday week, sent five different inquiries by telegraph with regard to Count Cavour's health.

THE CREDITORS OF MR. EDWIN JAMES, Q.C., have agreed to accept compromise, it is said.

LARGE ORDERS FOR ARMS on American account are reported to be in course of execution on the Continent.

HER MAJESTY'S SHIP ALBERT has taken possession, for her Majesty, of Forming's Island, in lat. 30.49 N., long. 159.20 W.

AFTER THE PRESENT OPERA SEASON, Mmes. Grisi will make a tour through the provinces, and will probably appear in many of our principal towns in Norma, or some of the other great parts with which her name is associated.

"THE SKULL OF DICK TURPIN, under a glass shade, many years in the Morley family of York." This was one of the lots put up to auction at a sale of "genuine furniture" on Friday week, in Church-street, Soho. The article sold for fourteen shillings—glass shade and all.

THE SALE OF THE LIBRARY OF ARCHBISHOP TENISON was concluded on Saturday at the house of Messrs. Sotheby and Wilkinson. The amount of the six days' sale exceeded £1410.

AT A BALL at BIRMINGHAM, on Saturday, a young woman fell dead while dancing with her sweetheart. Her death is attributed to apoplexy, brought on by tight-lacing, and by having taken a hearty meal just before dancing.

THE STATE PAPERS are immediately to be removed from their present lodgings—part of them to the Repository of Records in Fetter-lane, and part to the Chapter House at Westminster. The present edifice, it is said, is to be demolished, to make room for the proposed new India Office and Foreign Office.

THE COMMISSIONERS FOR THE EXHIBITION OF 1862 have received the intimation that the Queen and the Prince Consort will contribute from their collections any pictures, statues, or articles of virtu which may be thought desirable for the exhibition.

THE INMATES OF ST. MARTIN-IN-THE-FIELDS WORKHOUSE were thrown into a state of alarm on Tuesday, in consequence of the outbreak of a fire. The flames were soon extinguished; but four lunatics, who were strapped down in bed, narrowly escaped suffocation.

REAR-ADMIRAL THE HON. FREDERICK THOMAS PELHAM, C.B., has resigned his office as one of the Lords Commissioners of the Admiralty. The Admiral's health is much impaired.

ACCOUNTS FROM BRITISH COLUMBIA mention a great rush to some new gold discoveries at a place called the Cariboo region, on the Fraser River. Considerable amounts of gold had already thence at Victoria.

LIEUTENANT PAUL, of H.M.S. Curlew, has been dismissed that vessel, and placed at the bottom of the lieutenant's lists for cruelty toward the engineers on board, and for various acts of disrespect and disobedience.

THE DUKE OF DEVONSHIRE has been elected to the High Stewardship of the borough of Cambridge.

AMONG OTHER MUSICAL EVENTS already spoken of for next year is a jubilee performance, on the grandest scale, to be given by way of bonus to the subscribers of the Philharmonic Society, in commemoration of its foundation fifty years ago.

A GRAND CHORAL FESTIVAL on behalf of the Society for the Propagation of the Gospel in Foreign Parts is to be celebrated in St. Paul's Cathedral on Tuesday next. The sermon will be preached by the Bishop of Ripon.

MR. D. A. LANGE, the English representative of the Suez Canal Company, sailed in the last Peninsular and Oriental steamer for Alexandria, with a view to examine the actual condition of that project.

THE APPEAL IN THE YELVERTON MARRIAGE CASE, which was to have been tried during the present term, has by consent been postponed until next term, which commences in October, before which probably the decisions of the Scotch Courts will have been given.

THE SLAVE ANDERSON, whose fate, when the question of returning him to Missouri was pending before the Canadian Court of Queen's Bench, excited so much interest in this country, has arrived in London.

AN INFLUENTIAL MEETING OF COLONELS AND OFFICERS OF YEOMANRY CAVALRY was held at Lord Dudley's residence, in Park-lane, on Monday. The various speakers complained of the new arrangements made by the Horse Guards for the reorganisation of this branch of the volunteer service.

A DUEL has just been fought at Nice between the editors of two journals of that place, M. Mazon, of the *Messenger*, and the Chevalier Arson, of the *Gazette*. The latter received a sword wound in the thigh.

ADMIRAL SIR F. GRAY, K.C.B., and Commodore J. R. Drummond, C.B., will fill the seats now vacant at the Admiralty Board by the death of Sir R. S. Dundas, and the retirement, from ill-health, of Admiral Pelham.

MR. J. R. BULWER, of the Norfolk Circuit, has been appointed to the Readership of Ipswich, rendered vacant by the resignation of Mr. David Power, Q.C.

A HEAVY RESERVE of 100 and 40 pounder Armstrong guns and ammunition is in readiness for transport from Woolwich Arsenal for Malta, and also a reserve of ammunition for Bermuda, Halifax, and Jamaica.



## THE LOUNGER AT THE CLUBS.

On Wednesday last the last shackle was struck off knowledge, and she may now fly abroad through the length and breadth of our land without let or hindrance. For twelve years the advocates of the repeal of the paper duty have laboured, and at last success has crowned their labours. The victory was consummated at 4:30 on Wednesday last, when, in presence of her Majesty's faithful Commons, the Royal assent was given to the bill by commission. A crowd of members followed the Speaker to the Upper House to hear the bill receive "the complement and perfection of the law." And when the final words were uttered, "La reine le veut," they would gladly have given the measure a parting cheer, but no cheering is allowed in the presence of Majesty or its representatives. They did not fail, however, when the clerk of their own House announced that the bill had become law to express their satisfaction in their own peculiar way. It is rather a curious fact that one of the three Royal Commissioners who had to announce the Royal assent was Baron Montagu. The O'Donoghue, who thinks he can penetrate into divine mysteries, sees, perhaps, a Nemesis at work here. Well, the bill is passed, and already the air is thick with rumours of projects, getting ready for next October. New papers, daily and weekly, are to be showered upon us in profusion, and, as to the shapes, apart from literature, which paper is to assume, they will, according to all report, be protean. Papercollars we have already, and paper waistcoats; but what say your readers to paper shirts; paper curtains, beautifully printed with patterns in colours; paper carpets, strengthened by indiarubber; paper water-pipes, paper hangings proper, like the ancient tapestry, &c.? Mr. Bentinck fairly laughed when Mr. Ayrton told the House that the Japanese have paper waterproof cloaks, but I would make a wager that before many months Mr. Bentinck will have one. However, there can be no doubt that vast changes will follow the repeal of this tax—changes the end of which the most sagacious of us cannot see.

The rent in the Conservative party is again cobbled up; and Disraeli is still the leader. How it was done I have not learned; not an inkling of the terms upon which the Conservative chief resumed the sceptre has transpired. But the thing is done, and Disraeli is again commander-in-chief of her Majesty's Opposition in the House of Commons. The interregnum lasted three days.

By a return laid upon the table of the House we learn that the railway company's tender to carry the mails to America was accepted by the late Government when the company had not a single ship ready fit for the service, and that from June, 1860, to the date of the return, only two voyages strictly according to the terms of the contract have been performed. It is surely not wonderful, then, that the Postmaster-General, with the sanction of the Treasury, should have annulled the contract. But it will be wonderful if the House of Commons should compel the Government to renew it. The cry of injustice to Ireland is simply ridiculous. Lord Palmerston has openly declared that some Irish port ought to be a point of departure for the American mails. All the agitation, therefore, is not in the interest of Ireland but of a defaulting company. It was to prop up this questionable company that indignation meetings have been held; that monster petitions have been presented; and that the Lord Mayor of Dublin, in robes and chain, with a long, imposing train of officials, came to the bar of the House. Professedly, his Lordship came to demand "Justice to Ireland"—really, to save a defaulting company from ruin.

The observations of a man of delicate and refined spirit on art-topics are always worth recording; we therefore quote the following passage from a speech made by one Pancher at the recent meeting of the Crystal Palace Company:—

They were giving one hundred guineas to a male singer for singing a couple of songs. Brahm never did anything like it. They also gave twenty-five guineas to a lady singer. Now, with all respect for the musical art, he thought that one hundred guineas for a bawler and twenty-five for a squaller was rather too much; it was paying too much for their whistle. Some of these "bawlers" are gentlemen of quick temper and of good development of thews and sinews, and it is not improbable, if he continue his delicate irony, that Pancher will find himself in the position of punch-ee.

On the conclusion of the long-winded tale, "Ida Conway," Mr. F. Lawrence, of "Guy Livingstone" fame, will commence a new serial story in *Fraser*. Readers of periodicals have good times in store for them, Sir Bulwer Lytton having undertaken to contribute the next serial story to *All the Year Round*.

THE LITERARY LOUNGER.  
THE MAGAZINES.

There is not a very good number of the *Cornhill*. The principal serial begins to flag in interest, and even the startling crash at the conclusion of this instalment is no compensation for the twenty rather dreary pages which preceded it. The author is returning to his old limes again, and telling us his old old story without his former spirit: here are Philip, Agnes, and Captain Woolcomb at Brighton, in exactly the same position to each other and to the reader as were Clive Newcome, Ethel, and Lord Farintosh in the previous work. One begins to be a little weary, too, of the perpetual trumpeting of Mrs. Pendennis's virtue, and the little set bits of by-the-way moralising thereon have a strong savour of cant. There is a good, sensible essay on "Schoolmasters," and Mrs. Browning sends some noble verses called "Little Matter," full of new thought and real poetry. "The English Convict System" is very ably and clearly explained *per se*, but the author does not strike any balance between it and the Irish system, of which he was so laudatory last month. Mr. Doyle's picture does not strike us as being very funny; as yet he has not been very happy in his subjects, and he seems utterly to have lost that keen sense of humour which characterised the *Punch* draughtsman. However, he conveys instruction if not amusement. There must surely be many thousands of *Cornhill* readers who did not know that "Aunt Sally" was the chosen recreation of a fashionable morning party. The roundabout paper "On a Hundred Years Hence" sets forth, half in anger half in tears, how the writer is a very badly used man, how every one conspires against him, and how he, his domestic affairs and literary labours, form the principal topic of conversation of a lying world. Here is news, at any rate.

There is capital reading in *Temple Bar*, though the contents of this number are somewhat highly spiced. Mr. Sala's story does not make much way, but we are prepared for something exciting and dramatic at near approach. The character-sketching of the Sexagearians, and the description of their boarding-house and its mistresses, have never been surpassed. Mr. Oxenford's article on "François Hablaïs" gives an excellent biographical and critical account of the great humorist, quoted by so many but known to so few; and the new instalment of "Ancient Classical Novels" is written with great spirit and scholarly erudition. "For Better for Worse" contains much charming writing, and, now that the interest of the plot is rapidly developing, proves to be far superior to the ordinary "rack" of domestic novels. There are two short stories in the number. One—"My Aunt and I"—is a quiet story of home life, with several touches of genuine pathos; the other—"A Haunted Life"—is wild and exaggerated in its tone, though full of a strange weird power of fascination. There is much comic power and quaint feeling in an essay entitled "First Fiddles and Top Sawyers." In his prospectus Mr. Sala spoke somewhat doubtfully of his power of offering good poetry to his readers. He seems to have been luckier than he anticipated. *Temple Bar* has been noted for the excellence of its verse. In the present number a poem called "The Dead Baby," by Mr. Buchanan, is singularly beautiful in its quiet pathos, sweet imagery, and delicate versification. There are also two very pretty short poems, one, specially musical, called "Amy," by Mr. Mortimer Collins.

*Fraser* is decidedly heavy, though Mr. Froude's opening paper on

"Queen Elizabeth, Lord Robert Dudley, and Amy Robsart" is full of interest. The story is gathered from the archives of Simancas, is told in the cipher despatches to his Sovereign, Philip II. of Spain, by Alvarez de Quadra, Bishop of Aquila, who was the Spanish Ambassador in London during the first five years of Elizabeth's reign. Mr. Froude seems to vouch for De Quadra's veracity, though a perusal of the papers would lead one to accept their statements *cum grano*. Scandal about Queen Elizabeth is rife in its pages, and the virgin Monarch comes but badly out of the ordeal. "The City of the Sun" is a lady's experiences of a visit to Baalbek, written with a certain amount of spirit, but devoid of novelty. "King Atilla's Death" is but a poor copy of verses. Mr. Whyte Melville's serial, "Good for Nothing," improves month by month; in this instalment there is some really excellent writing, displaying great knowledge of human nature, and a hearty honest tone which is far superior to the would-be fastness and clubhouse moralisings in which the author was wont to indulge. "Where Fancy is Bred" is a *Household Words*-ish article on sporting public-houses, which has been already better done in Mr. Dickens's periodical. There are also papers on the "British Salmon Fisheries," "Historical Art in England," a continuation of Mr. Bains's phrenological articles, and a "Review of Mr. Arnold's Lectures on Translating Homer."

The *Dublin University* has grown sadly dull whilst constantly carping. Everything is vanity save the *D. U.*; all writers are shams and humbugs save the *D. U.* contributors. In an article called "Modern Pre-Raphaelitism" everybody is taken to task. Mr. Millais has arrived at a "pitch of absurdity." "Endless word-spinning, rash dogmatism, and affected phraseology form Mr. Ruskin's chief pretensions to the rank of a deep and original thinker." Mr. Holman Hunt has suffered shipwreck on the rock of "soulless naturalism," and George Eliot shows but "mechanical skill" in "reporting the humble life of her poorer countryfolk." Grumbling of this kind, querulous discontent at and disparagement of all successful writers, has lately been constant in the pages of this magazine, where, be it said, we do not find one article of more than average ability, and where we perceive a decided want of progress and an apparent incompetency to keep pace with the times.

The opening article in *Blackwood*, "The Book-hunter," is full of pleasant gossip about famous collections, and libraries, and book-shops, well put together and novel of its kind. The number taken generally, however, is not very brilliant. There is a review of M. de Montalembert's "Monks of the West," a very sweet and touching poem called "Hades," two dry geographical articles, "Miss Bremer in Switzerland and Italy," and "A Cruise up the Yangtze;" the continuation of "Norman Sinclair," a very dull poem—no! not a poem; a dreary set of verses of the comic-song order, called "I'm very Fond of Water;" and an amusing paper, "Memoirs of a Tory Gentleman," founded upon the recently-published experiences of Miss Coraelia Knight.

The *St. James's Magazine* is, as commercial men would say, "as per last," neither worse nor better. The fault of its conduct seems to be the endeavour to give a vast number of articles without the power to accord to any the requisite space for its elaboration. The first article on "The Post Office" is crude to a degree—a mere scissoring of blue books and reports, and this even carelessly done, the fragmentary paragraphs dodging from 1792 to 1838, then to 1840, then back to 1814, and hence to 1830. Mr. Hood's verses, "Home at Last," are pretty in spirit and rhythmical. We do not think the new tale by the author of "Paul Ferrol" quite so "charming" as the writer of its advertisement seems to find it. It is difficult to get up an interest in a Polish heroine. Mr. Merrifield's article "On the Use and Abuse of Colours in Dress" is full of sound sense; and Professor Ansted's "Few Words About San Domingo" are well-timed and interesting. Mr. Heapley's "Dinners in Rome" are pleasantly written, and would be more enjoyable if he made his adjectives plural to agree with his substantives (viz., "Isles Britannique"), and knew the proper way to spell "Campagna;" and some verses called "Sounds" would be preferable if every rhyme in the third stanza, with the feeling and metre, were not directly robbed from "The Ancient Mariner."

## THE THEATRICAL LOUNGER.

There will be an amateur dramatic performance by the members of the Savage Club at the Lyceum Theatre on Wednesday. The proceeds will be for the benefit of the widow and family of the late Mr. E. Landells, artist and engraver, who, after a long and useful professional career, died without having secured an adequate provision for those who were dependent upon his labour. Mr. Landells did good service to literature and to the public in his day, for he was one of the first who determined to popularise wood engraving by applying it to the illustration of cheap serials, a result which seems to have been attained long ago to those amongst us who can scarcely remember the time when there were no illustrated newspapers. Mr. Landells was, however, the pupil of Bewick, the father of the wood engraving of our time.

The pieces which will be played on Wednesday are "The Wreck Ashore" and a new burlesque written by the men whose fertile pens furnish most of the Christmas and Easter fun at the London Theatres—Messrs. Planché, Talfourd, Byron, Buckingham, Halliday, Falconer, and William Brough. Beside these a number of gentlemen connected with literature and art have promised their assistance. Several names are already published, including those of Mr. Charles Dickens, Mr. Blanchard Jerrold, Mr. Edward Draper, Mr. Palgrave Simpson, Mr. W. H. Wills, Mr. John Hollingshead, Mr. Walter Thornbury, Mr. Lowe, Mr. Kenny Meadows, Mr. Charles Bennett, Mr. Moy Thomas, Mr. Thomas Archer, and Mr. William Dalton.

Remembering the two former occasions on which the members of the Savage Club appeared in public for similar objects, there can be very little doubt of success.

Miss Sedgwick's engagement at the OLYMPIC not having proved very attractive, Mr. Robson has returned to work somewhat sooner, we fancy, than prudence dictated. He acted with spirit on Monday night, but looked much pulled down by his recent illness.

COUNT CAVOUR AND THE IRISH.—The Ultramontane journals of Ireland off a rowdiness upon the death of Count Cavour, in harmony with those which fell from Mr. O'Donoghue in the House of Commons. The *Nation* says:—"Dignus Dei—Count Cavour is dead! He is the third of the eminent Italian annexors who have departed this life since the seizure of the fortress of the Holy See. 'We must go to Rome,' said the Count only a few months ago. He has not come to Rome; but we shall see what he has done for the Holy See." The *Irish Morning News* exclaims:—"What a blow to the other principle of the Italian Revolution, the seizure of the Holy See! For he it is from us to presume to point out the way of Divine vengeance in this unexpected visitation; but who can bear of the sudden death of a man who has played such a part, and who, to his very last hour, filled so large a space in the public mind without a thrill of awe! The conscience of the Christian world will feel that such a loss is no ordinary death, but one which should strike a salutary terror into the hearts of wicked men. Hardly a week ago the organs of the revolution were trumpeting forth the plan Cavour had in contemplation for compelling the destruction of that sovereignty which has survived the storms and trials of a thousand years."

THE STADE DUSS.—The Stade Duess are at an end at last. Government has received intimation that these obstructions to commerce, which have engaged the attention of so many Parliaments and engrossed the labours of so many Administrations, are at last about to cease. No more duess will be levied after the 1st of July next. The sum to be paid by Great Britain, as her share of the indemnity, will be much less than was generally apprehended. The English payment will be little over £160,000.

MR. SPURGEON.—We (*British Standard*) have received for publication the following characteristic note:—"Mr. Spurgeon begs to inform the public that he is knocked up with hard work, and is compelled to go into the country to rest. This will upset all his arrangements, and he begs his friends to remit his promises, and the Christian public not to inundate him with invitations."

## MIDDLE-CLASS EDUCATION.

A PUBLIC MEETING was held on Saturday at St. James's Hall for the purpose of considering the best means of improving middle-class education in the country and promoting the interests of St. Nicholas College.

The college was founded in 1848 for the special object of improving middle-class education, and it has, in addition to large buildings at Lancing, on a property of 230 acres, as the headquarters of the society, with a grammar-school for the sons of gentlemen, a college at Hurstpierpoint, in Sussex, for training middle schoolmasters; a public boarding-school, in the same building, for the upper class of tradesmen, farmers, clerks, &c., at a payment varying, according to circumstances, from £20 to £30 a year, containing more than 250 boys, who are taught by seven clergymen and graduates of the Universities, with six other trained masters; together with a cheaper boarding-school at Shoreham, for the sons of small shopkeepers and artisans, at which the payment for board and education is but thirteen guineas a year. This is carried on for the most part in houses hired by the parents of the boys (230 of whom are already admitted, and no more houses can be hired). This disadvantage it is now sought to remedy by the erection of premises to accommodate 1000 boys, with an adequate staff of masters. It is towards the building of this cheap school that the college now solicits aid.

It has been found at all times that there exists great difficulty in providing the means of education for certain classes of the community, and those classes, far from being the least numerous, are still farther from being the least important. We have, by the munificence of our ancestors in former times, obtained the means of education, more especially for the higher classes and the professional men. But there was still one class between the two, less wealthy than the upper, and not so poor as the lower, and including among its numbers small shopkeepers and artisans, for whom little or nothing had yet been done. A beginning has been made, and a very important one, at St. Nicholas College, in Sussex, by Mr. Woodward, towards supplying this great defect; and it is for the purpose of aiding these endeavours that we are now assembled. The school, in all its details, is a self-supporting one; and, as regards the payments, they are not, I believe, intended to be more than £15 a year, the instruction being afforded by masters furnished by St. Nicholas College. All that is wanted is a suitable building to receive the boys. The school already contains 300 boys, and they have demands made for the admission of 700 more than can be accommodated. It is very unwise to delay proceedings of this sort until it may be too late.

The Archbishop of York moved the following resolution:—

That, considering the growth of intelligence among the lower classes, owing to the impulse given of late years to education, the establishment of public boarding-schools for the education of the lower middle-classes, which may be cheap and self-supporting, is of great national importance.

Mr. Walter, M.P., seconded the resolution, which was supported by Lord Redesdale and Lord John Manners. The last speaker said that Mr. Montalembert, in his interesting and philosophical work on the institutions of this country, laid very great and just stress on the most important and beneficial influence which our great public schools had exercised on the fortunes of this country. It was certainly strange that, while the upper and lower classes of society were provided with facilities for obtaining education, so little should have been hitherto done for the middle classes; and their position reminded him of that of a middle child in a family—the elder son, it was said, could walk over the gutter, the younger would be carried over, but the middle one would tumble into it.

The resolution was unanimously agreed to.

The Bishop of Chichester moved the second resolution:—

That the society of St. Nicholas College, founded in 1848 for the promotion of public-school education among the upper, middle, and lower middle classes, and which already conducts three large schools of these several classes, is deserving of public support for the extension of its operations.

Mr. W. Cotton seconded the resolution, which was unanimously adopted.

Lord Lyttelton said that he had recently inspected the school at Lancing, and bore witness to the excellent manner in which it was conducted, and the beneficial results which had arisen from its establishment. His Lordship moved:—

That this meeting accordingly pledges itself to assist the society of St. Nicholas College in erecting a public boarding-school for the lower middle classes, on a site which has been obtained near the Balcombe Station, on the London and Brighton Railway.

Mr. G. A. Sala said that he had always felt a deep and serious interest in the progress of education, and cordially seconded the resolution.

Sir W. Page Wood supported the resolution, and pointed out the healthful advantages which accrued from the action of public schools in forming the character of men in their social and political capacity. Educated as a Wykehamite himself, he had many advantages of seeing the many many virtues and noble qualities which were attained in that and many kindred establishments; and, knowing the value of the system of education adopted there, he felt it was his duty to endeavour to the utmost of his power to provide the same advantages for the middle classes.

Mr. Ackroyd also supported the resolution, which was carried unanimously.

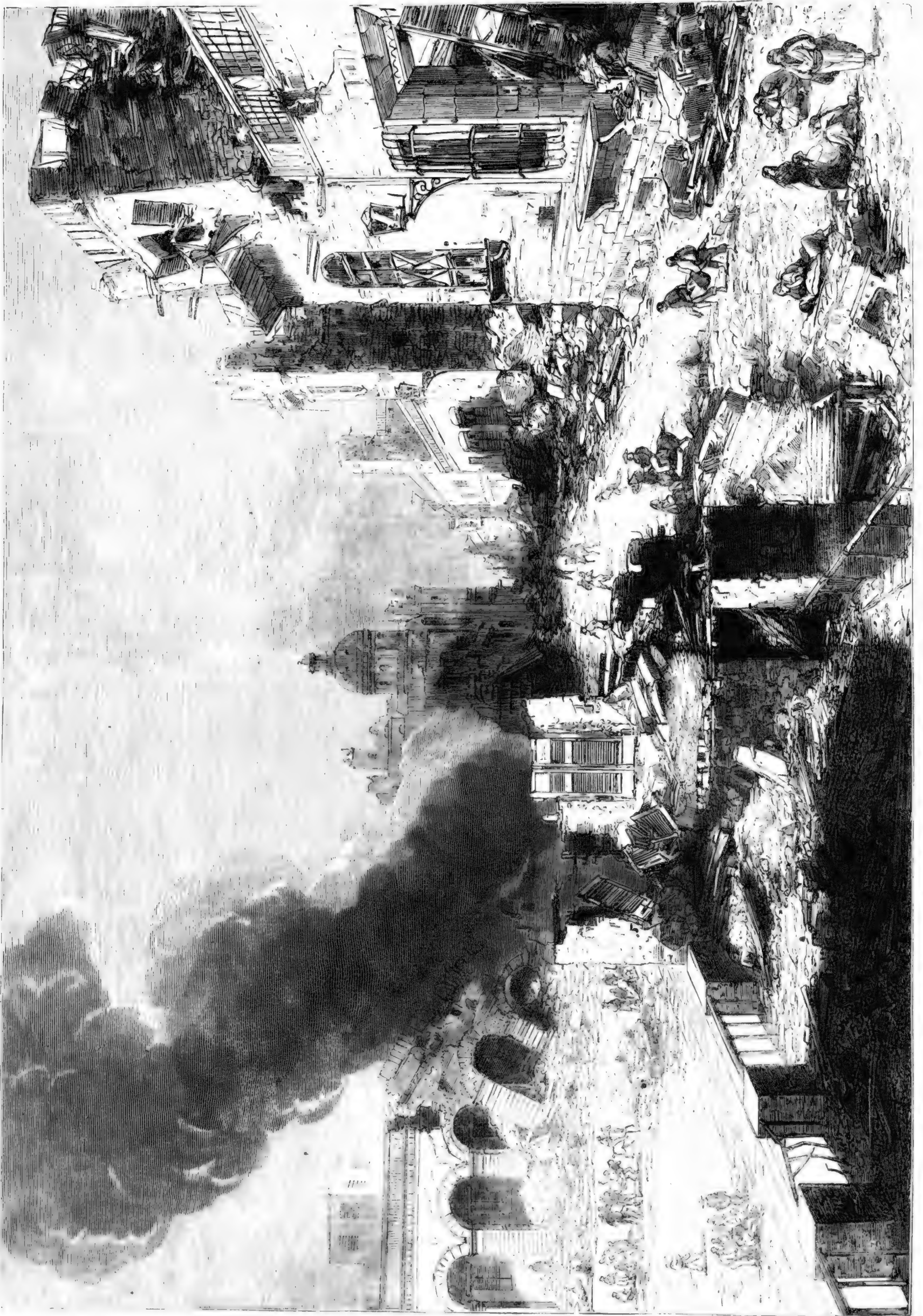
The meeting was brought to a close by a vote of thanks to Lord Brougham.

THE COUNCIL OF LEGAL EDUCATION IN LONDON has founded a law studentship, open to the competition of the students of the various Inns of Court, and involving a periodical trial of strength among English, Irish, and Scotch students. This time a student of the Roman Catholic University in Dublin has carried off the prize.

DINNER TO SIR HOPE GRANT.—The members of the United Service Club entertained this distinguished soldier to dinner on Saturday night. The Duke of Cambridge took the chair. Among the guests were Lord Palmerston, the Earl of Elgin, Sir Chas. Wood, Mr. Francis Grant, Capt. Grant, Generals Sir J. Burgoyne, Sir Thomas W. Brotherton, Sir H. Jones, the Earl of Rosslyn, Peel, Brereton, Sir James Y. Scarlett, and Admirals Sir O. F. Seymour, the Earl of Hardwicke, Sir George R. Lambert, Sir Michael Seymour, the Earl of Shrewsbury, and Colonel le Marquis d'Audigne, Military Attaché to the French Embassy. In proposing "The Health of General Sir Hope Grant," the chairman remarked that he had been selected for service in China entirely on account of the high position he had won for himself in the last campaign in India. The last Chinese War was not a bloody one, but it was not for that reason the less difficult, qualities of the highest kind being required to carry on vast military operations at an enormous distance from home. In his reply Sir Hope Grant attributed no small share of his success to the Armstrong guns. The Armstrong gun, he said, was, in fact, the finest weapon ever invented. Mr. le Marquis d'Audigne, in replying for Baron Gros, whose name had been associated with "The Health of Lord Elgin," took the opportunity of testifying his full confidence in the duration of the present union of France and England, which in rendering us invincibly, assures us the triumph of civilising and Christianising ideas to the utmost extremity of the universe.

ARTILLERY EXPERIMENTS AT SHOREHAM.—A series of interesting experiments were carried out during last week at Shoreham for the purpose of testing the power of the old smooth-bore and the new rifled guns against the strongest combination of iron-plates and timber yet experimented on. The target consisted of a solid wall of iron ten inches thick, built up on Thompson's system of dovetailing, and this was backed in the strongest manner by heavy timber, and braced with iron bars. The first attack was made with heavy guns—38-pounders of the old service pattern—but the various projectiles fired by these smooth-bore guns made no perceptible impression, and it was evident that the target would stand any amount of pounding from these weapons; in fact, after all the ammunition expended the wall of iron and timber appeared to be, for all practical purposes, indestructible. One of the Armstrong 120 shunt-guns was then placed in position and fired with a projectile weighing 120 lb. The power of the weapon was instantly apparent. Such was the effect of the firing of this gun, caused by its velocity, that at a range of 600 yards it cleaned out one of the 10-inch plates, at the same time carrying away the back support. The next gun fired was one of the ordinary 100-pounder Armstrongs with a solid projectile weighing 110 lb. The target was struck in another part, and a breach was made clean through the structure, the fabric itself being so weakened as to ensure ultimate destruction. The third shot, with the same weight of projectile, was directed against another part of the target. The result was conclusive, as the whole fabric, already weakened, came down above the point which was struck.





THE EARTHQUAKE AT MENDOZA.—VIEW IN THE PLAZA DEL GOBIERNO.—(FROM A SKETCH BY J. A. H. DE VRIES.)



## THE EARTHQUAKE AT MENDOZA.

EVEN in those lovely climes where Nature seems to produce spontaneously nearly everything which would suffice to supply man's wants; where prolific and luxuriant beauty is the characteristic alike of the cultivated farm and the wild forest, and labour would appear to have reached the minimum which leaves it only an amusement; even in these lands there is no paradise. Apart from the truth that there can be no happy Eden where men are who still retain their fallen nature, there are natural interruptions to all this serenity and beauty which serve to remind us that there can be no earthly condition in which ease and pleasure continue. It would seem, indeed, as though Nature herself awoke from a sweet, deep reverie, and in an angry mood of action destroyed her children. At the foot of the mighty Andes in that glowing and gorgeous territory of South America in which flows the River Cujo, giving its name to the district, lies the capital city of Mendoza, a place of considerable importance, both by its trade in wine, wool, and fruit, and in its being the

most western city of the Argentine Republic. This place, containing more than 20,000 inhabitants, has been too often desolated by the civil wars which have been of such frequent occurrence in these South American provinces, yet it was one of the most beautiful of the cities of that region, its public buildings being numerous, and the streets laid out on the American principle, which placed them at right angles, and left points of junction for the formation of fine squares. The calamity which has recently visited it, however, has been a devastation against which no human effort could avail. The Indians who visited the neighbourhood had prognosticated that some change of an unusual nature was about to happen, for a strong wind—a sort of sirocco—had been blowing with great fury on the coast, and it was followed by a heat almost suffocating. Meanwhile sudden variations continually took place in the barometer; and the horses and cattle in the open country, instead of grazing quietly or galloping about, stood together in herds as though seeking mutual protection from

some common danger, their heads depressed, and with unquiet eyes. The first shock of the earthquake was felt in the night, accompanied by a dull rumbling sound, and was followed at intervals of two or three minutes by several others, thus verifying the prophecies of the Indians of the Pampas who had given the first warning, and were confirmed by the opinions of the Peons who dwell in the estancias between Mendoza and the first passes of the Andes. One of the long caravans of mules which form the transports between Mendoza and Valparaiso reported that several feeble shocks had been felt in passing the last defiles of the mountains.

The next morning the city was covered by a thick cloud of dust and smoke, while here and there several columns of white smoke showed that fire had helped to destroy that which remained from the earthquake. More than five thousand of the inhabitants are buried in the ruins of their houses, and it took a considerable time to bury those bodies which were with great trouble recovered from the masses of building under which they lay. The military commandant



INHABITANTS OF THE GOVERNMENT OF WORONESCH, IN SOUTHERN RUSSIA.

who providentially escaped death, has taken the most active measures to clear the ground and to bury the dead. Unhappily, the means were not easily attainable, for the entire population fled with alarm into the open country. Several devoted men, however, as well as the soldiers—the greater number of them being the black inhabitants—resolutely set about the painful duty. It was not for several days that the ambulances were in proper order for the mournful work, and greater help arrived to the unhappy city.

The palace of the Governor has been almost entirely destroyed, as well as several churches, and many of the streets were impassable in consequence of the heaps of ruins.

## THE RUSSIAN PEOPLE.

THE designation "Russian people" does not properly apply to the inhabitants of the Russian empire generally, but to the Russian nation properly so called—viz., the inhabitants of the Grand Duchy of Moscow, the nucleus of the huge empire, and the inhabitants of the different agricultural governments which spread out in every direction around that nucleus.

These are the people most immediately concerned in the great

measure of serf emancipation. They comprise two distinct races, being the descendants of the original inhabitants of those territories which in the old division of the empire were called Great and Little Russia. From these divisions the two races in question take their denominations, and they are respectively called "Great Russians" and "Little Russians." The former is of short stature, broad-shouldered, short-necked, strong, and muscular. He has a broad, flat nose, a ruddy complexion, thick light hair and beard, and generally blue or grey eyes. The expression of his countenance is frank and intelligent. The "Little Russian," on the contrary, is slender in form, without much of muscular development. His nose is sharp and pointed, and his cheeks thin. He has dark eyes, hair, and beard, a swarthy complexion, and the expression of his countenance is somewhat mean. These personal differences are accompanied by corresponding distinctions of character. The Russians, as a nation, are distinguished for cheerfulness of temper, together with a certain amount of recklessness and unconcern for the future. They love amusement, are not over fond of work, and they evince an extraordinary indifference to misfortune. When any number of the two races are now describing assemble together it is curious to note their peculiarities of disposition and manners. The Little Russian seems

to remember that the Great Russian (the Muscovite proper) once conquered him; and he also appears as if haunted by the consciousness of his own inferiority, in intelligence and manner, consequently he is taciturn and reserved in the presence of the Great Russian; but when amidst his own people he sings, dances, plays, and laughs without restraint. The Great Russian is, however, naturally the most light-hearted of the two races. He has a taste for wit and humour, and is a merry companion in a carouse; but even when under the influence of drink he is not brutal; whilst, on the other hand, the Little Russian, in his fits of drunkenness, is frequently guilty of acts of cruelty and violence.

The characteristic activity of the Great Russian and the corresponding indolence of the Little Russian are strongly indicated by the different occupations the two races in preference follow. Suppose two youths, one of each race to be engaged in some rural employment in one of the agricultural districts, the Great Russian will most likely emancipate himself from the monotony of country life, leaving his more inert neighbour to follow it out. The land of the Muscovite is that region of the Russian empire in which manufactures are most flourishing. The ready aptitude of the Great Russian soon enables him to learn a trade. He will wander from



one end of the empire to the other, and in the course of his peregrinations will actively and readily devote himself to any occupation by which he can earn a livelihood. He is a fisherman on the shores of the frozen ocean, a hunter in the wild north-eastern forests: in the towns he will work at the trade of a mason, and when he can do nothing better he travels about the country as a pedlar with little pack of wares.

The Little Russians are almost all engaged in tilling the ground or rearing cattle, and consequently they have spread themselves over the rich grain-growing and grazing flats of Southern Russia. These people have little taste or aptitude for mechanical pursuits, and still less for trade. Here and there in the towns a few only may be found following the trades of shoemakers, tailors, or carpenters.

Hospitality is a virtue for which both races are alike distinguished, but each exercises it in his own peculiar way—the Great Russian with most courtesy, and the Little Russian with most liberality. The poorest Cossack will freely share his last bit of bread and cup of milk with the stranger who visits his hut.

In no respect do the two races differ more decidedly than in habits of cleanliness and domestic order. In their houses, as well as in their clothing, the Great Russians are exceedingly dirty and slovenly; whilst the Little Russians are remarkable for cleanliness and neatness.

Undeviating attention to their religious duties is a marked feature in the character of the whole Russian people; though their piety, it is true, frequently degenerates into bigotry and the mere observance of forms. The various sects which have separated from the established religion of the empire (the Greek Church) have found numerous adherents in the rural districts of Little Russia, where in recent times religious fanaticism has led to the commission of fearful crimes—as, suicide, murder, self-mutilation, &c. Whole villages have been burned to the ground, and hundreds of lives voluntarily sacrificed, the victims desiring to enter into "eternal life through the baptism of fire." The sect called the "Skoptzi" denounce marriage as sinful, and practise all the sins and errors of the Origenists. There is a numerous sect called the "Wanderers," who have no settled homes, and are constantly engaged in pilgrimages to Jerusalem, believing that the best way to serve God is to allow themselves no earthly rest.

All sectarians are distinguished in Russia by the general denomination "Raskolnicks." Some sects differ from the established Church only on points the most trivial—as, for example, the right mode of pronouncing the name of the Saviour, whether the cross should have four bars or eight, whether during worship it should be touched with two or with three fingers, whether the customary procession round the baptismal font should be in accordance with the course of the sun, or in the contrary direction; together with a multiplicity of other questions equally unimportant. Some of the Raskolnicks believe it to be ungodly to shave the beard, to drink coffee, to wear garments of any foreign make, to smoke tobacco, to travel by railway; in short, to adopt any new inventions or fashions.

Some of these religious sects are of opinion that all except persons of their own faith are unclean; and they will not suffer a stranger to eat or drink out of any vessel they use. Castren mentions that in the course of his travels he arrived in a village exclusively inhabited by this class of Raskolnicks. He was hungry, and requested to have something to eat. The people were very willing to satisfy his wants, but it happened that in the whole place there was no plate, or cup, or vessel of any kind that could be offered for the use of a "heathen." The traveller endeavoured to convince them that it was a greater sin to allow a man to perish for want of food than to suffer one or two of their domestic utensils to be polluted. Thereupon an old man stepped forward and thus addressed the assembled villagers:—"In God's name give this man as much food and drink as he requires, but suffer him not to use any of your wooden vessels, for heathenish impurity penetrates so deeply into wood that it can never be eradicated, and will remain even to eternity. But let the man eat and drink out of a stone vessel, that will not be so far polluted but that it may be cleansed by being well scrubbed and washed with sand and water." This speech had the desired effect. A stone basin was found; "but nevertheless," adds the narrator, "I observed that the hand of my hostess trembled as she presented it to me."

Our illustration depicts the varied and picturesque costumes worn by the inhabitants (male and female) of the government of Woronesch. These people belong to the race called "Little Russians."

## OPERA AND CONCERTS.

"PROSPECTIVE ARRANGEMENTS" are still on the card, and there is as yet no sign of a lull in musical matters. Signor Verdi's new opera, "Un Ballo in Maschera," of which some snatches have been heard by Londoners who attend the rehearsals of the annual concert-givers, will be produced at the Royal Italian Opera next Thursday, the chief singers being Mesdames Penco, Nantier-Didice, and Miolan-Carvalho, and Signori Mario, Graziani, and Tagliafico. The last-named gentleman, by-the-by, has been absent this week from a performance in which his services are generally looked for by lovers of completeness in operatic casts. Nevers and parts of the same calibre would not be written but for the existence of pantstaking artists like Sig. Tagliafico; and, though we may as well feel grateful to Sig. Polonini as to anybody else for undertaking the part of Nevers at very short notice, one can see no valid reason for praising him. This presentation of "Les Huguenots" was the first of the season, and derived some additional interest from its being the medium of one of Mme. Grisi's farewells. The Valentine of Mme. Grisi, though not so inseparably connected with her name as two or three other lyric heroines have been and will long continue to be, is nevertheless one of her most characteristic achievements of acting as well as of singing. How much of her success in this part may be due to association we will not pause now to inquire; but if ever she owed the Raoul of Signor Mario an effect or a point in the scenes best adapted to the display of her powers, it was on Tuesday evening. As for Mario, it is enough to say that his renaissance of last season endures in this. There was little to provoke superlatives in speaking of the other parts of the opera. M. Faure gave a finished representation of San Bris, and, were he not fated to sing in a language which he appears unable to master, would probably do full justice to the music of a school in which he is eminently at home. Mme. Nantier-Didice is about the only Urban left us now that Albani has relinquished pages and boy-parts generally, and Mme. Borch-Manno does not return to the English metropolis. On Tuesday Mme. Nantier justified her prominent position in this particular rôle by a richness and piquancy of vocal expression not to be excelled. Here we must pause in our commendation. Mme. Miolan-Carvalho's brilliancy and fascination of manner in the part of the Queen of Navarre were accompanied with many drawbacks of incorrect singing. M. Zelzer, as Marcel, made us feel heavily the want of a musical basso-profondo. The chorus, for Covent Garden, seemed a little below the mark. "Rat-a-plan" went loose and straggling; but the "Benediction des poignards" was, on the whole, effectively given, and almost won an encore. As a matter of course, the orchestra shone brightly in this most elaborately instrumental of operas. Every obligato passage was brought out with the polish of an exquisite gem in a massive and noble setting.

The value of a true artist in a subordinate capacity, as referred to in the preceding observations with respect to Signor Tagliafico, was strongly exemplified last Saturday evening at the Lyceum Theatre, when M. Gassier accepted the third-rate part of Ferrando in Verdi's most popular work, "Il Trovatore." This opera was produced with an extraordinary cast by way of inaugurating the new operatic

undertaking which appeals for public support under the ægis of Mr. Mapleson, who is supposed to act under Mr. E. T. Smith, who is said again to be under Mr. Lumley. Whoever may be finally accountable for the organisation of affairs at the Lyceum, he has certainly started with spirit and promise. The principal singers on the opening night were Mdle. Titicus, Mdme. Albani, Signor Giuglini, Signor delle Sedie, and Signor Gassier. We need hardly indicate the respective parts filled by these artists, since they naturally occur in reading the names; but it may, perhaps, be necessary to state that Signor delle Sedie was the Conte di Luna, of "Il balen" notoriety. This gentleman is a recent acquisition, and is steadily winning his way in public favour, which is a far better mode of progress than leaping into popularity. He has that most enviable of voices, a flexible baritone, and has actually learnt how to use it. In short, Signor delle Sedie is a singer who can sing. It was a proof of good taste in M. Gassier to take a part so inferior as that of Ferrando, and he obtained as much applause in his singing in this part as would have fallen to him in the part of Di Luna. We are unable to speak very favourably of the band or chorus, but practice may improve them. The Lyceum has since presented "Lucrezia Borgia," with the same principal singers, omitting Signor delle Sedie; and promises this evening (Saturday) to anticipate the production at Covent Garden of "Un Ballo in Maschera."

An audience of amateurs listened on Wednesday evening with signs of gratification to Mr. Horsley's oratorio of "Jideon," a grand rehearsal of which was given more than a year ago, but which is otherwise new to the London public. The Rev. Archer Gurney has furnished the words for Mr. Horsley's music; and it is something to say of them that they enable a perfectly smooth flow of harmony. The chief solo vocalists were Miss Stabach, Mdme. Laura Baxter, Mr. Sims Reeves, and Mr. Weiss. Mr. Alfred Mellon led the orchestra, which was well selected for the occasion; and Mr. Best was the organist. The chorus, now and then rather unsteady, was on the whole efficient.

The concerts, which depend so much on friends and patrons, are in the height of their career; and it is no unfrequent occurrence just now for the critic or habitual attendant of musical gatherings to hear repetitions on the same day. When so determined a run is made by tenors on "Adelaida," for instance, there is a likelihood of hearing Signor Gardoni or Mr. Henry Haigh close on the heels of Mr. Sims Reeves; and as for Schubert's "Wanderer," where is the basso-baritone who does not regard it as his own chartered possession? With instrumentalists, also, the tendency to jostle one another in the choice of themes is very apparent; and it was only the other day that, having heard M. Wieniawski perform a fantasia on the violin at the Crystal Palace, we were so fortunate as to reach St. James's Hall just in time to hear it played again by Mr. Henry Blagrove.

The "professors' concerts" during the past week have been those of Mdme. Laura Baxter, Mr. Cusins, Herr Molique, Mr. Walter Macfarren, and Herr Oberthür. Mr. Sims Reeves has been in general request on these occasions, and the capabilities of Signor Ciampi as a concert-room buffo have been tested with the most complete success.

Beethoven has given the tone to a great deal of the musical arrangements of the last few days. The week began with a Beethoven night at St. James's Hall, producing one of the best in the series of Monday Popular Concerts. The entire programme was devoted to the works of this great master; and people who infer monotony from homogeneity never had a better chance of correcting their mistake. The famous quintet in C major—the *magnus opus* of the composer's early period—was played by Messrs. Wieniawski, Ries, Webb, Hann, and Piatti; and M. Nicolas Rubinstein made his debut at these concerts in the pianoforte "Sonata Appassionata," winning immense applause. Mr. Sims Reeves was the vocalist—giving the "Lieder Kreis," the "Stolen Kiss," and the "Savoyard."

The Philharmonic Society, on Wednesday evening, echoed the strain of Beethoven's music. The "Sinfonia Eroica" was the opening piece, and it was followed by Mendelssohn's symphony in A major, No. 2, which was composed expressly for the Philharmonic Society. Mr. J. F. Barnett, a pianist of whom great things are to be expected, played Beethoven's concerto in C minor with a marvellous elasticity and with shades of feeling that bespoke his true appreciation of the master-mind. The vocalists were Signora Guerrabella and Signor delle Sedie.

THE CRYSTAL PALACE COMPANY.—The annual meeting of the shareholders of the Crystal Palace was held on Tuesday. The admission granted to the members of the share clubs and their friends on a recent Sunday, when the palace had upwards of 40,000 visitors, was the principal subject of discussion, and excited some hostile criticism.

THE GREAT EASTERN CHARTERED TO CONVEY TROOPS.—The "Great Ship" has been taken up for the conveyance of 2500 men, 100 officers, and 122 horses, for Quebec. These will include the 4th field battery of the Royal Artillery, consisting of 7 officers, 220 men, 20 women, 25 children, and 110 horses; the 39th Regiment of Foot, consisting of 89 officers, 868 men, 80 women, 120 children, and 6 horses; the 4th battalion of the 60th Rifles, consisting of 39 officers, 868 men, 80 women, 120 children, and 6 horses. In addition to whom there are to be also 4 officers, 102 men, 9 women, and 19 children belonging to the 16th, 17th, and 100th Foot, and the Canadian Rifles. The Golden Fleets has also been taken up to convey the 47th Regiment of Foot to Quebec. The regiment consists of 39 officers, 868 men, and the usual number of women and children, and horses. They are to embark at Dublin.

MR. STICKERON ESTCOURT'S CHURCH-RATE COMPROMISE.—The following is Mr. Estcourt's abstract of his Bill to Abolish the Jurisdiction of Ecclesiastical Courts in respect of Church Rates, and to Alter and Amend the Law relating to Church Rates:—1. Jurisdiction of Ecclesiastical Courts in regard to the validity and enforcement of church rates to be transferred to the same tribunal as the poor rate. 2. Each ecclesiastical district to be a separate parish for the purposes of this Act. No rate to be collected in any district, except for the church or chapel of such district. 3. Churchwardens to be empowered and required once in their year of office to publish on the church door for three successive Sundays, and after publication to levy and collect an owner's church rate, not exceeding one penny in the pound, upon all property in respect of which the occupier has been assessed to a church rate within the last five years, such rate to be solely applied to the following purposes, viz.:—Repair of church, church clock, bells, belfry, and maintenance of the churchyard; providing of books required for registers, and for performance of Divine worship, according to law; insurance of all the above against fire; payment of fees due by law. This rate to be payable by tenants, and deducted from rent due to the landlord. 4. Church vestry, as hereinafter defined, to have power to levy an occupier's church rate for any purpose connected with Divine worship. Such rate to be collected only from occupiers who are members of the church vestry. 5. The church vestry to consist solely of owners who have been rated as aforesaid, and of all occupiers who shall during the preceding twelve months have paid any church rate, or, being ratepayers, have contributed to any subscription in lieu or aid thereof, and who shall not decline to be members of such church vestry, by delivering to the churchwardens before Easter in each year a notice in the form set forth in the schedule. 6. Church vestry to have under its control the audit of churchwardens' accounts, furniture and fittings of the church, salary of officers, appropriation of rates, and all expenditure incurred for the benefit of the congregation. 7. Small Tenements Acts to be applicable to occupiers' rates under this Act. 8. All rates under this Act to be assessed according to the poor rate. 9. After this Act comes into operation, no church rate to be assessed or levied except in accordance with the provisions of this Act. 10. Saving where money is due on security of rates. 11. Saving provisions of local Acts. 12. This Act to come into operation on Easter Day, 1861. SCHEDULE.—Form of Notice: To the churchwardens of — parish, I, A. B., give you notice that I decline to be a member of the church vestry of this parish for the year —. Date, (Signed).

DEATH OF THE REV. PATRICK BRONTE, B.A.—The Rev. Patrick Brontë, B.A., incumbent of the village of Haworth, in the West Riding of Yorkshire, died at his parsonage yesterday week. The deceased was father of Charlotte, Anne, and Emily Brontë, the authoresses originally known as Currer, Acton, and Ellis Bell. He was eighty-four years of age. Mr. Brontë was himself an author, having at different periods written two small volumes of poems, chiefly on homely and rural subjects, and two prose compositions, one a tale of Irish life, and the other a pleasing little narrative entitled "The Cottage in the Wood; or, the Art of becoming Rich and Happy." He was highly respected by the people among whom he lived. The perpetual curacy of Haworth is valued at £170 per annum.

## DESTRUCTION OF THE SURREY MUSIC-HALL.

THIS beautifully-designed hall, in the establishment of which more than one fortune has been wrecked, was totally destroyed by fire on Tuesday afternoon. The building, which was erected for musical performances, was opened on July 15, 1856. Since that period it was the scene of many of M. Jullien's triumphs, and it had also obtained some note from Mr. Spurgeon's preaching. Lately, however, it had somewhat degenerated; but the present lessees, Messrs. Caldwell and Bishop, had been making great exertions for some months to restore its reputation. Numerous concerts had been planned, and engagements entered into with several of the leading performers of the day, both vocal and instrumental. The gardens were in excellent order, everything had been repainted, and the finishing stroke was just being put, in the shape of some slight repairs to the roof. But this involved the employment of plumbers, and necessarily the use of a portable fire; and negligence or accident in connexion with the work was the cause of Tuesday's catastrophe. It seems that some plumbers had been engaged in repairing the roof at the west end of the building, and, on going to dinner, had left their fire in a place of supposed safety. Soon after the discovery was made that a small portion of the roof was in flames. A very small quantity of water at this time would have extinguished the fire entirely, but the alarm of the workmen and the difficulty of getting water to such a height caused great delay, during which period the wind, which was blowing strongly from the south-west, fanned the small beginning into a large mass of flame, which before the engines arrived had got such hold that it was not very difficult to predict the issue. The wind setting precisely on the end of the building where the fire commenced, the water offered no obstacle to its progress, for although for some time it carried the flame from the two towers at the west end, it gradually returned and consumed every particle of them. The fire continued its course along the whole of the roof, gradually igniting the interior until the hall was one entire body of flame. The two eastern towers were soon reached, and as speedily destroyed, and in little more than three hours nothing was left of the hall but its four walls.

Two of the usual causes of complaint were entirely removed on this occasion, as an ample supply of water was obtained from the lake, and the presence of one of the assistant-commissioners of police prevented the pressure of a crowd. The scarcity, if any, appeared in the engines, there being only four belonging to the brigade, with those belonging to several private firms, and their united efforts were of very little avail against a body of flame which extended to both sides of the building. At a later period the powerful steam-engine belonging to Messrs. Shand and Mason arrived, although too late to effect much good. By five o'clock the flames were entirely subdued, and most of the engines had left; but they were scarcely out of sight when the band of the gardens commenced playing, and an announcement was posted informing the public that the price of admission was one shilling. The only explanation of this appears to be that the real loss of the hall does not fall on the present lessees, and that, as they will have to endure sufficient inconvenience in consequence of the calamity, they are determined to lessen it as much as possible by using the refreshment-hall as a place of entertainment for the present.

## THE CENSUS.

THE census returns have been published, at least so far as the houses and population of England and Wales are concerned. The results are of a very remarkable and satisfactory character. During the last decade the population has increased by 2,134,116 persons, the aggregate population being 20,061,725. Of the total population it appears that 9,758,852 are males, and 10,302,873 are females.

The portion of the Army, Royal Navy, and merchant seamen out of the country at the time of the census is not included, and as it appears from official returns that the army abroad amounted to about 137,000, the Royal Navy and Marines absent from the United Kingdom to about 42,900, and the merchant seamen absent on voyages to about 96,000, it may be assumed that the numbers of these classes belonging to England and Wales were collectively not less than 162,021, mostly adult males.

In the purely agricultural districts the increase is very small as compared with what it is at the great seats of commercial and manufacturing industry.

The number of houses, including those which are uninhabited and those which are building, is 3,955,368, being an increase of 497,264.

The population of London, within the limits of the Metropolis Local Government Act, is 2,803,034—that is, 440,798 more than it was in 1851. The inhabited houses have increased from 305,933 to 362,890.

The total number of emigrants who sailed from the ports of the United Kingdom during the last ten years is 2,287,205, of whom by far the largest proportion were natives of the sister isle. This is more than half a million in excess of the number of emigrants in the interval between the census of 1841 and that of 1851.

The Registrar-General and his assistants, in the remarks with which they preface the tables, do not pledge themselves to their minute accuracy; but they believe that the careful revision which they will hereafter receive will not diminish their present substantial accuracy.

SUFFERINGS AT SEA.—The following letter has been received by Mr. P. H. Dean, of Liverpool:—"Montreal General Hospital, May 23.—It is now a most painful duty for me to write you of the total loss of the *Perseverance*, about 130 to 150 miles E.N.E. of St. John's, Newfoundland, in the ice. We sailed from Hamburg on the 5th of March. Nothing particular occurred until the 9th of April, when that night we suddenly got into the ice and could not get clear again before the vessel was completely cut through and foundered. We had barely time to get the boats out and take to them when she foundered. Of the whole crew, numbering ten, I only am left. The other nine perished from cold and starvation. They died off, one after the other, until all were gone. I was left living for several days in this way, with two dead men in the boat with me, and had to bale out the boat day and night. Eighteen days and nights passed, when, on the 27th of April, the Bristol barque *Lord Petre*, Captain L. Browne, picked me up in lat. 46 deg. 25 min. N., long. 46 W., and carried me on shore. I arrived on the 21st, and got into hospital. None of my papers or property of any kind were saved. Had no time to even get a drop of water put into the boat, it happened so suddenly. I remain, your obedient servant, ARCHIBALD WILSON, late captain of the *Perseverance*."

ALARMING DISTRESS IN SPITALFIELDS.—On Saturday morning at the monthly meeting of the vestry, held in the Townhall, Church-row, Bethnal-green, Mr. Keymer, an officer of the parish, called the attention of the various officials to the alarming condition of the Spitalfield weavers. He stated that hundreds of families were actually starving for the want of the common necessities of life. There were nearly 3000 looms idle in the districts of Bethnal-green, Spitalfields, Waterloo-loom, Norton-foilage, Shorehitch, the Old Artillery Ground, Whitechapel, Mile-end New-town, Cambridge-heath, Goolman's-field, and Stepney. Hundreds of poor weavers were to be seen wandering about the streets at the east-end of the metropolis in groups, begging.

AN OLD STORY REHEARSED.—The *Wanderer* of Vienna relates the following occurrence, which took place a few days ago at Ploetz, in the circle of Bezean:—A pigdealer having solicited hospitality of the Greek Catholic Curé of the place for one night, the priest allowed him to sleep in his barn, in the bed usually occupied by his farm-servant, who was from home. Before going to bed, however, the dealer intrusted, for better security, several hundred florins which he had about him to his host. About midnight the farm-servant unexpectedly returned home, and finding his bed occupied, drove the intruder out of it, churlishly taking his place. The dealer sought out another corner of the barn to lie in, and soon fell asleep again, but was awakened by a slight noise, followed by a groan and a rattling in the throat. To his terror he perceived a minute after the Curé and his wife dragging away the dead body towards the cellar. He waited till all was quiet again, and then made his escape to the village, where he related the whole affair to the authorities. It was early in the morning when he presented himself in their company to face the Curé's house, and claimed the money he had deposited. It is needless to add that the priest and his wife are now awaiting their trial.



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